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AUSTRALASIA

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G-7 Summit To Rewrite 'Leaked' Declaration

OW1406122695 Tokyo KYODO in English 1205 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Halifax, Canada, June 14 KYODO — An economic declaration to be adopted at this year's summit here of the group of seven [G-7] major industrialized nations will be rewritten because a draft of the document was leaked to the press, sources familiar with the meeting said Wednesday.

Personal representatives for leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States are to get together Thursday noon to make final adjustments to the rewritten declaration, the sources said.

The final draft of the original 11-page declaration was to have been adopted, almost as it was, by the leaders at their meeting Friday afternoon, the second day of the summit. The representatives were scheduled to begin putting the finishing touches to the draft Thursday evening.

But as the draft, dated May 27, was leaked to the press and made public last Wednesday, the representatives decided to rewrite it, the sources said.

Japan's Participation in G-7 Summit Viewed

Murayama Arrives in Halifax

OW1506001495 Tokyo KYODO in English 2307 GMT 14 Jun 95

[By William Mallard]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Halifax, Canada, June 14 KYODO — Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama became the first foreign dignitary to arrive Wednesday for a summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations, greeting flag-waving children, a pith-helmeted honor guard and an Indian chief offering an eagle feather.

Accompanied by Foreign Minister Yohei Kono, Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura and Ryutaro Hashimoto, minister of international trade and industry, Murayama left a government jet at 4 p.m. into persistent drizzle at an air base outside Halifax before taking a ferry to the Nova Scotia port city.

After meeting David Dingall, Canadian minister of public works and government services, and local officials on the tarmac at Canadian Forces base Shearwater, Murayama stood as members of the Royal Canadian Regiment in bright red coats and pith helmets marched and played "Kimigayo," Japan's de facto national anthem.

Murayama waved at fifth-to-seventh graders with Canadian and Japanese flags before his motorcade took him to the Coast Guard icebreaker Edward Cornwallis for the short trip across the bay to Halifax.

Kono and Takemura watched from white deck chairs as Murayama was asked to sign the captain's log. "Is my name enough?" he asked, before writing slowly in crisp Chinese characters, "Japan Cabinet Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama."

After docking as the rain picked up, Murayama stood stiffly as he listened to a welcome from Alex Denny, a leader of the Mi'kmaq people, the region's original inhabitants. Denny presented him with an eagle feather, a symbol of honor, and told him in Mi'kmaq that the gift would bestow spiritual strength and guidance.

Murayama then went to his hotel to rest before Thursday's one-on-one meetings with Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien and U.S. President Bill Clinton before the evening start of the G-7 summit.

Citing his performance last year at the G-7 summit in Naples, Italy, where he fell ill and had to be replaced by Kono, Murayama told reporters on the plane he feels fine this time and wants "to do my best to the end."

G-7 Expected To Avoid Auto Issues

OW1506004295 Tokyo KYODO in English 2326 GMT 14 Jun 95

[By William Mallard]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Halifax, Canada, June 14 KYODO — Japan does not expect leaders of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations to talk directly about currencies or delve into the Japan-U.S. auto row, a Japanese delegation spokesman said Wednesday.

Although Japan is "deadly serious" about the effects of the high yen, foreign exchange is "not really a matter which requires discussions" by the G-7 leaders, said Foreign Ministry spokesman Terusuke Terada.

The G-7 leaders are meeting Thursday through Saturday in the Nova Scotia port city of Halifax.

Currency values should be based on economic fundamentals, and the leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, italy, Japan and the United States may affirm "the necessity of the stability of currencies," Terada said during a news conference.

Detailed currency discussions should be left to finance ministers and central bankers, but the finance ministers already have a full plate at the summit with such issues as reforming global financial institutions, he said.

And while Tokyo will push for strengthening the global trading system, Friday's consensus-based economic statement will avoid "any acrimonious expression," such as Japan's ire at threatened U.S. auto trade sanctions, he said.

In a separate meeting Thursday before the evening start of the G-7 summit, Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama and President Bill Clinton will likely "touch on" the Japan-U.S. auto brawl but "we do not anticipate any sort of negotiations."

Citing a March economic stimulus package, supplementary budget, a deregulatory program and a record cut in the official discount rate — all derided as weak by most economists and final markets — Terada said Japan is "deadly serious about dealing with this difficult economic condition," exacerbated by the soaring yen.

The G-7 summit will also not likely take up in detail Japan's complaint that France may soon resume nuclear weapons testing in the South Pacific, Terada indicated.

The summit will discuss more generally "disarmament and safeguards of nonproliferation regimes," he said, while Japan will save specific talks about the French move for a Monday bilateral summit in Paris, he said.

Japanese Foreign Minister Yohei Kono earlier in the day told French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette by telephone that the French move "betrays remarkably the confidences held by the nonnuclear weapons nations," just after the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty was indefinitely extended, Terada said.

Kono expressed regret and urged France not to resume testing, the spokesman said.

Takemura Wants Stable Currency

OW1506053595 Tokyo KYODO in English 0300 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Halifax, Canada, June 14 KYODO — Japan wants leaders of Group of Seven (G-7) nations to confirm a commitment to currency stability at their summit here, Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said Wednesday.

The G-7 leaders should not change the basic line agreed by their finance ministers and central bankers in April calling for an "orderly reversal" to the recently plunging dollar and soaring yen, Takemura told reporters.

Takemura said Japan will consider additional economic stimulus measures from the fall onward while watching the effects of such measures as expedited public works spending. "Flexible action is needed," he said.

Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama will unveil the plan to U.S. President Bill Clinton during their meeting Thursday, Takemura said.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin has recently stepped up calls for additional Japanese pump-priming action, citing signs of deflation and its sinking stock market.

Takemura said talks are under way to try to arrange a one-on-one meeting between him and Rubin on Thursday evening.

Recent foreign exchange movements "lack reasonableness," Takemura said. Although Friday's economic statement will unlikely be specific on the subject, he said, "at such a time, it is desirable for the leaders to express their will."

Murayama, Clinton To Meet

OW1506134195 Tokyo KYODO in English 1318 GMT 15 Jun 95

[By William Mallard and Kohei Murayama]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Halifax, Canada, June 15 KYODO — Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama and U.S. President Bill Clinton are to sit down later Thursday amid hints that they may nudge their auto trade negotiators toward solution of a nasty bilateral row.

After Clinton arrives in this Nova Scotia port city around midday, the two will meet for an hour in the late afternoon and hold a news conference before an evening reception that kicks off the group of seven (G-7) industrial powers' summit, officials said.

Both sides have played down expectations of any break in the auto trade talks, insisting the leaders will not negotiate. But a Japanese official said they "will confirm efforts to resolve (the auto row) through negotiations."

Clinton told a Washington news conference that he and Murayama "will review the position the United States has taken on our trade disputes with Japan regarding autos and auto parts," referring to Washington's threat to slap 100 percent tariffs on 5.9 billion dollars worth of Japanese luxury car imports.

Murayama and Clinton will not come up with "concrete" measures or a "political decision," spending only "about 10 minutes" of their hour on the auto issue, but they may lay a path for resolving the conflict, the official told reporters.

Although both sides have agreed to resume subcabinet-level negotiations in Geneva on June 22-23, easy resolution looks difficult as the official said Japan still insists the U.S. drop its call for "voluntary plans" by Japanese automakers to buy more foreign parts.

The official said the U.S. and Japan agree that "the car issue is the car issue" and there should be "no spillover" of the bilateral spat into the Thursday-Saturday talks by the leaders of the G-7, which also groups Britain, Canada, France, Germany and Italy.

Japan anticipates there may be mention of Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin's recently stepped-up calls for Japan to take further economic stimulus measures, but it is not expected to become a major issue, the official said. Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said Wednesday that Japan will consider new pump-priming steps from the Autumn. [sentence as received]

In the more harmonious 50 minutes of their talks, Murayama and Clinton will coordinate positions on the "extremely good news" of the U.S.-North Korea basic accord to replace Pyongyang's nuclear reactors with models not suited for fueling North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons program, the Japanese official said.

They will review progress on a bilateral "common agenda" on such issues as the environment and aids, which is a little-publicized part of the trade "framework" that encompasses the auto fight, the official said.

KYODO Reports on Nagasaki Disarmament Forum

Experts Urge Banning Laser Weapons

OW1406043695 Tokyo KYODO in English 0406 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nagasaki, June 14 KYODO — Efforts to make the world safer would be more effective if foreseeable new types of weapons of mass destruction, such as those using laser technology, were banned before being developed, a Japanese diplomat and legal expert said Wednesday.

"We should be imaginative and looking always in the future and try to preempt futuristic weapons, military methods and deployment," said Ambassador Chusei Yamada, who is a member of the International Law Commission, in addressing the UN Conference on Disarmament Issues in Nagasaki.

Yamada cited international treaties banning nuclear weapons from the antarctic and outer space, which he said were easily reached because they did not conflict with the vested interests of states at the time of their conclusion.

He said the March 20 sarin nerve gas attack on the Tokyo subway system, which killed 12 and injured 5,500 people, has shown how difficult it is to prevent the production of chemical weapons.

While urging more comprehensive verification measures to ensure compliance with the chemical weapons convention, which has not entered into force yet, Yamada suggested that a unified verification regime could be worked out to cover several disarmament agreements.

Predicts Test Ban by 1996

OW1506094095 Tokyo KYODO in English 0603 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nagasaki, June 15 KYODO — A vast majority of disarmament experts polled at the current international conference in Nagasaki believe that a global ban on nuclear testing will be achieved by the end of next year.

Government representatives and scholars from 29 of 34 foreign countries represented at the UN Conference on Disarmament Issues, which started Monday [12 June] and concludes Friday, responded to a KYODO NEWS SERVICE survey.

Only the respondent from India ruled out completion of a comprehensive test ban treaty by the 1996 deadline arguing that China, which conducted a nuclear test last month, and France, having announced Tuesday it will resume nuclear testing in September, "will be a problem."

Twenty-six respondents were confident about the treaty's prospects, arguing that the political will for such a ban had been demonstrated at the recent review conference for the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in New York.

The representative from Thailand voiced some doubts and North Korea did not respond to the question.

Twelve delegates conceded that the nuclear powers — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — are legally allowed to conduct nuclear tests with most of them stressing that morally or politically speaking they should refrain from further tests given the test ban negotiations.

Twelve outrightly denied that they are allowed to conduct nuclear tests and five remained noncommittal.

A total of 22 respondents said they believed that nuclear weapons will ultimately be abolished, while Singapore, India, Malaysia, and Finland voiced pessimism such as "the nuclear powers will hold on to their weapons" and three were undecided.

The U.S. atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945 was called "not right" by 17 respondents including one from the U.S. who said "the power of the bomb could have been demonstrated over an area with no people and helped to end the war."

Other reasons cited were the "inhumane" nature of atomic bombs or that World War II was in its closing stage anyway.

Respondents from Finland and Britain said the raids were right "militarily speaking" or since "it seemed at the time to be the only way to end a war which had caused terrible human suffering on both sides."

Respondents from North Korea and Finland disapproved of the recently adopted Diet resolution which expressed "deep remorse" at Japanese colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula and acts of aggression committed during World War II, arguing it does not constitute an apology.

Fourteen respondents said they can approve of the wording of the resolution, whereas 13 answered with a conditional yes, demanding stronger and more explicit language or — such as Nepal and Russia — refused to comment.

Views Spratlys, Arms Trade Issues

OW1506114095 Tokyo KYODO in English 0901 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nagasaki, June 15 KYODO — Conflicting territorial claims to the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea were cited as a major Asian security threat at an international disarmament conference in Nagasaki on Thursday Participant said.

In contrast to plenum discussions on the two previous days, the press was excluded from Thursday's working group sessions at the UN Conference on Disarmament Issues to enable participants to voice their opinions with less restraint.

Speakers reportedly voiced concern that the territorial row over the Spratlys, which are believed to be rich in oil and natural gas deposits, could erupt into a major Asian dispute, while urging that the claimants set up a mediating body to solve the latent security threat peacefully.

China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Taiwan, Malaysia and Brunei are claiming the group of islands, which are scattered along major international shipping lanes, as a whole or in parts.

"Two major Asian countries" were accused of contributing to undermining regional peace and stability by "recklessly" exporting sophisticated weapons and military technology to South Asia, said Brahma Chellaney from the Australian National University, who moderated one of the two working groups.

The evaluation of the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) after its indefinite extension at a New York conference last month dominated discussions in the second group, which had "complementary nuclear disarmament efforts" as its theme.

As in plenums on Tuesday, doubts were expressed about the commitment of the five nuclear powers — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — to the "ultimate goal" of eliminating nuclear weapons as pledged at the NPT conference, a participant said.

Speakers urged that "objective standards" or a timetable for progress in disarmament be set up and that concrete measures be worked out to cover the period up to the ultimate abolition of nuclear arms, he said.

A debate erupted about the nature of decisions made at the NPT conference stipulating the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty next year and the strengthening of the treaty's review process.

A nuclear power's disarmament ambassador reportedly said the NPT had actually been extended unconditionally, arguing that the two decisions were legally not binding.

This sparked strong protests from a representative from a nonnuclear NPT member country who insisted that all decisions taken at the conference were legally binding.

The disarmament ambassador from a major nonnuclear state, however, said her country had supported the treaty's extension as a conditional one in good faith that the nuclear powers would honor the decisions.

The conference, held annually in Japan since 1989, will close Friday with a report from the working groups.

Nagasaki Conference Views France's Resuming Tests

OW1406113995 Tokyo KYODO in English 1118 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nagasaki, June 14 KYODO — Disarmament experts meeting at an international conference in Nagasaki on Wednesday discussed new approaches to reducing security threats around the world amid disappointment over France's decision to resume nuclear tests.

Nagasaki Mayor Iccho Ito in a plenum session called the French announcement "extremely regrettable" and accused France of neglecting pledges to exert utmost restraint in nuclear testing during efforts to reach a comprehensive test ban treaty by the end of 1996.

The global test ban, seen as a further step toward nuclear disarmament and the eventual abolition of nuclear weapons, a major concern in the Atomic-bombed city of Nagasaki, had figured high in plenum discussions on the previous day.

Germany's ambassador to the UN Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, which is negotiating the treaty, called the decision announced by French President Jacques Chirac on Tuesday "politically incorrect," while noting that France is legally entitled to conduct tests.

Asked for comment, many delegates voiced hopes that France will not embark on its decision to conduct the announced underground test in September, while noting with relief that Paris promised to sign a comprehensive test ban treaty next year.

John Carlson, director of safeguards in the Australian Safeguards Office, said "I would hope that we won't see very many of these tests, possibly none at all. Of course, the fewer the better."

Britain's Disarmament Ambassador, Michael Weston, declined to give a clear-cut comment, but said, "we welcome the confirmation that they intend to sign the treaty as soon as it is concluded."

However, the conference noted on an upbeat note that North Korea and the United States have resolved substantial differences over the implementation of a broad bilateral accord that aims at dismantling the North's suspected nuclear weapons program.

Prvolsav Davinic, who heads the UN Center for Disarmament Affairs and is presiding over the conference, welcomed the "very important development," expressing hopes it will contribute to peace and stability in the region.

Following three weeks of negotiations in Kuala Lumpur, North Korea and the United States announced Tuesday that light-water reactors to be built in the North under the accord will be an "advanced version of U.S.-origin design."

Delegates from North and South Korea also welcomed the joint statement, but were immediately at loggerheads over its interpretation.

Suh Dae-won, deputy director general for the South Korean Foreign Ministry's United Nations Bureau, expressed satisfaction that South Korea was awarded a major role in the reactor project, noting that South Korean-standard reactors will be used.

In an apparent effort to save face, after the North's insistence that it would never accept South Korean reactors, Ri Dong-il, a North Korean Foreign Ministry official, protested that "it is not written in the (Kuala Lumpur) statement whether it is a South Korean-type...Reactor."

Davinic cut the exchange short by saying "we do have as a matter of fact an agreed (upon) agreement."

The first day of plenum discussions at the UN Conference on Disarmament Issues, an annual event, focused almost entirely on nuclear disarmament by the five declared nuclear powers and the future of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty after its indefinite extension last month.

However, on Wednesday the conference turned to the broader context of disarmament efforts, such as confidence building and the strengthening of existing multilateral disarmament agreements.

Criticizes France's Decision

OW1406085195 Tokyo KYODO in English 0622 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nagasaki, June 14 KYODO — Participants in an international disarmament conference in Nagasaki on Wednesday criticized France's decision to resume underground nuclear testing.

Ambassador Wolfgang Hoffmann, Germany's representative to the UN Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, while noting that France is legally allowed to conduct tests, said the decision is "politically incorrect" given international efforts to reach a comprehensive test ban treaty by the end of 1996.

Ambassador Pasi Patokallio, director for arms control in the Finnish Foreign Ministry, expressed "strong regret" at the decision. "We would like the French not to embark on this and not to test," he said.

His views were echoed by John Carlson, director of safeguards in the Australian Safeguards Office, who said Australia is opposed to nuclear tests in general but even more to those conducted in the Pacific.

He expressed hope that "we won't see very many of these tests, possibly none at all, of course, the fewer the better."

Britain's disarmament ambassador, Michael Weston, evaded a clear-cut comment, but said, "we welcome the confirmation that they intend to sign the (test ban) treaty as soon as it is concluded."

Ambassador Cheng Ruisheng from the Chinese Foreign Ministry said he does not know whether the decision is the right one, but that he "can understand it."

China, which conducted an underground nuclear test last month, has said it will end testing when the planned test ban goes into force.

French President Jacques Chirac said in Paris earlier Tuesday that France will conduct an underground nuclear test in September to complete an experimental program.

Francois Barry Delongchamps, deputy director for disarmament in the French Foreign Ministry, confirmed at the ongoing UN Conference on Disarmament Issues in Nagasaki that France will not conduct tests after a comprehensive test ban treaty has been concluded.

Official Views APEC Information Infrastructure

BK1406132195 Jakarta BISNIS INDONESIA in Indonesian 8 Jun 95 p 4

[FBIS Translated Text] Jakarta (BISNIS) — The APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] telecommunications ministers have reached agreement on five targets aimed at paving the way for the establishment of an information infrastructure as part of their effort to boost investment and realize free trade in the Asia-Pacific region by 2020.

Jonathan L. Parapak, secretary general of the Department of Tourism, Posts, and Telecommunications, said the APEC leaders have realized the importance of the telecommunications sector as a catalyst in making the Asia-Pacific region a zone of trade and investment.

Therefore, at the APEC ministerial meeting on telecommunications and information in Seoul on 29 and 30 May, the ministers agreed to adopt the five targets. Parapak represented Indonesia at the meeting.

"The Seoul meeting adopted five targets aimed at accelerating the establishment of an information infrastructure among the APEC countries," Parapak told reporters yesterday after briefing them on the government's preparations to host a meeting in Bandung from 4 to 6 September 1995 entitled: "Telecommunications Summit: The International Conference and Exhibition on Human Resources Development."

Parapak said the APEC ministers realized that the establishment of an information infrastructure among the APEC countries will only be achieved through their own efforts. In this connection, the private sector of each country is encouraged to act as an engine of growth with their strong financial support to speed the establishment of an Asia-Pacific information infrastructure.

The five targets stipulated in the Seoul Declaration on the Asia-Pacific information infrastructure are: First, the establishment and expansion of a physical information infrastructure capable of linking APEC countries. Second, the promotion of technical cooperation among the APEC countries. Third, the promotion of an unobstructed and efficient flow of information. Fourth, the exchange and development of human resources. Fifth, efforts toward the realization of a business climate conducive to the establishment of an Asia-Pacific information infrastructure.

Parapak said the realization of the Asia-Pacific information infrastructure will not only maintain economic growth in the Asia- Pacific region but will also create many new job opportunities. This will alleviate the unemployment problem faced by APEC's developing countries.

Parapak added that the meeting also formulated 10 principles that stressed the importance of telecommunications cooperation based on the principle of mutual respect for each APEC country's domestic affairs. "Each country is asked to adopt a transparent and nondiscriminatory attitude toward information service providers," he said.

APEC Needs 'Substantive,' 'Credible' Program

BK1406050495 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 13 Jun 95 p 2

[Report by Chuang Peck Ming]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] ASEAN and APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] must do more to press on with the good starts they have made to realise economic cooperation, Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said yesterday.

ASEAN would have to extend its free trade area to services, he told participants at the opening of a conference on cooperation and competition in the Asia-Pacific region. The five-day event is organised by the Nanyang Technological University and the Eastern Academy of Management.

ASEAN countries have agreed to speed up the implementation of the free trade area in goods, BG [Brigadier General] Lee noted. They hoped to seal an agreement on services — potentially more contentious — by the summit meeting in December.

For the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), it should keep trade liberalisation at the top of its agenda and not fall for the soft option of trade facilitation, BG Lee said.

"Trade facilitation — streamlining the administration of trade rules — is useful to smooth trade flows after liberalisation has created the opportunities for trade," he said. "Liberalisation is much harder than facilitation."

APEC now needed a "substantive and credible" programme of action to achieve free trade in the Asia-Pacific region by 2020. "Atmospherics and generalities, which sufficed to get APEC off the ground in the first phase, are no longer enough to sustain the organisation."

The APEC leaders' meeting in Osaka in November must take APEC forward to the next step and maintain the momentum of trade liberalisation, he said. "If the Osaka meeting fails to build on the achievements of the previous leaders' meetings, APEC risks losing steam and petering out as members lose interest in the organisation, through what one U.S. trade official has called 'trade fatigue'."

Earlier in his speech, the Deputy Prime Minister said the region's explosive growth was intensifying competition and speeding up change. But whatever problems these brought, they would be far less serious than the problems that slow growth or economic stagnation would cause.

"The way to cope with intense competition cannot be to slow down the changes or to delay unavoidable but painful adjustments," he said. "The solution must be to achieve closer and more harmonious economic cooperation among the regional countries, in order to manage the adjustment process better and to reap maximum benefits from this cooperation."

APEC was a long way from developing into any regional dispute settlement mechanism, BG Lee said. "But as APEC becomes more institutionalised, with a schedule of regular meetings and substantive business, its members will build confidence in one another, and be better able to discuss and resolve problems before they become intractable."

The Japan-U.S. car trade dispute showed clearly the need to manage friction between Asia-Pacific economies and prevent disputes from escalating out of control and damaging the global trading system, he said.

Japan

Murayama To Present Ways To Settle Auto Row

OW1506052895 Tokyo KYODO in English
0247 GMT 15 Jun 95

[By Kohei Murayama]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Halifax, Canada, June 14 KYODO — Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama and U.S. President Bill Clinton on Thursday [15 June] will present ways for resolving the auto trade dispute to their negotiators, a Japanese official said Wednesday.

The official, requesting anonymity, said, "the two leaders will confirm efforts to resolve (the auto row) through negotiations" at their meeting scheduled just before the start of the summit meeting Thursday to Saturday of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations in the Nova Scotia port city of Halifax.

The official said Murayama and Clinton will not come up with any "concrete" measures or "political decision," but he indicated that some path will be laid toward a resolution by adding, "their confirmation to pin down efforts will pose a great meaning for negotiators."

His comments came a day after the two nations agreed to resume subcabinet-level negotiations in Geneva on June 22-23.

Earlier Wednesday in Washington, Clinton said that he intends to discuss the auto issue with Murayama.

Reiterating a stance maintained by both parties to avoid auto negotiations during the Halifax summit, the Japanese official said that Murayama and Clinton will not negotiate, but will discuss the auto issue for "about 10 minutes" in their scheduled 60-minute talk.

The official said the auto issue will be taken up more deeply by Japanese Foreign Minister Yohei Kono and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher who are slated to meet hours before the two leaders.

But, asked if Murayama will give some new instructions to his negotiators after discussing with Clinton, the official said that Japan's stance remains unchanged, especially on its insistence that the United States drop its proposed sanctions and demand for "voluntary" plans by Japanese automakers to boost purchases of foreign parts.

Washington has issued a preliminary sanctions list, targeting 13 Japanese luxury car models with 100 percent tariffs that would affect business worth 5.9 billion dollars. The sanctions are designed to take effect retroactive to may 20 if no deal is reached by June 28.

Given the sanctions, Japan has filed a complaint with the World Trade Organization (WTO) to seek a multilateral verdict on the U.S. unilateral action.

Japan and the U.S. held expert-level consultations Monday in Geneva under the WTO based on Tokyo's complaint but failed to make any progress.

In line with subcabinet negotiations, the two parties also agreed to resume the wto consultations in Geneva on the same day.

Murayama To Ask Clinton To Avoid Sanctions

OW1406133595 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1014 GMT 14 Jun 95

[Announcer-read report; from the "NHK News 7" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama left for Halifax, Canada, this afternoon to attend a summit of the G-7 industrialized nations. Foreign Minister Yohei Kono, Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura, and other government officials are accompanying Murayama. Before the summit begins, the prime minister plans to meet with U.S. President Bill Clinton in the early dawn of 16 June Japan time. At the meeting, Murayama will claim that the U.S. unilateral sanctions measure against Japan over the auto issue is unreasonable, and ask the president not to go ahead with the sanctions plan. Murayama hopes he and the President will confirm that the auto dispute should not affect the overall bilateral relations.

In economic discussions at the summit, Murayama hopes an agreement will be reached on retaining the multilateral free trade system and maintaining G-7 cooperation over foreign exchange markets. In political talks, he will promise Japan's financial assistance to help bring about peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The prime minister also plans to stress the need of the member nations to cooperate in nuclear disarmament and the prevention of a new type of terrorism like the sarin gas attack on a Tokyo subway system.

Murayama Comments on Trade Dispute, G-7 Summit

BR1406144595 Paris LE MONDE in French
14 Jun 95 p 3

[Interview with Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama by Bertrand Le Grange in Tokyo; date not given: "International Institutions Must Be Reappraised"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Le Grange] Some observers believe that the trade dispute between Japan and the

United States could influence their political relations. Does Japan intend to give priority to Asia?

[Murayama] We do not intend to sacrifice our relations with the United States for the sake of close relations with Asia. Since the end of World War II we have established very friendly relations with the United States, which are important not only for our two countries but also for the sake of peace and stability in the Asian-Pacific region. We must jointly intensify our ties within this region. We do not consider relations between Japan and the United States differently from relations between Japan and Asia.

[Le Grange] Many specialists believe that the Japanese economy must be deregulated — a viewpoint shared by Japanese consumers. Why not accept this and facilitate imports?

[Murayama] There are many misunderstandings in this regard. Between 1993 and 1994 Japan's current payments surplus fell significantly: In fiscal year 1993 it was $130 billion. The estimate for 1994 is $125 billion. We believe that it will fall further in 1995. This reflects a steady increase in imports. We also announced a five-year deregulation plan, subsequently reduced to three years on account of the urgent economic measures adopted to take account of the rise in the yen rate.

This deregulation program will be revised each year, taking account of viewpoints expressed both inside and outside Japan. We believe that this program will increase internal demand. I am convinced that eventually the difficulties will be overcome.

[Le Grange] Let us discuss the monetary situation. Is Japan determined to adopt drastic measures, such as to internationalize the role of the yen?

[Murayama] We have no specific plans in this regard. When they met in April the G-7 finance ministers agreed that the current exchange rates do not appropriately reflect the state of the economy and that consequently an organized reorganization is desirable. Our urgent economic measures in response to the rise in the yen rate envisage our facilitating transactions quoted in yens, but the decision lies with private companies.

[Le Grange] Some people are suggesting that the influence of the G-7 countries on world affairs is diminishing, that it is much more difficult for them to cooperate. Do you think that the Halifax summit will have a positive impact on this situation?

[Murayama] With the end of the Cold War and the globalization of the economy, it is absolutely essential for the leaders of the major countries, which represent almost 90 percent of the global GDP, to meet and to discuss current challenges. I think that these contacts are very favorable for peace and prosperity. Of course, I do not mean that the G-7 members can resolve all the problems on their own.

[Le Grange] What in particular does Japan expect from the Halifax summit?

[Murayama] The year 1995 marks the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. In half a century many things have changed, both economically and politically. We believe that the international institutions — the United Nations, the IMF, the World Bank — must be reappraised.

In the economic field, we must discuss ways of further derestricting multilateral trade and strengthening its foundations. This, in order to guarantee the world economy sustained and noninflationary growth.

In the political field, we must discuss such matters as the prevention and proliferation of mass destruction weapons. Apart from the agreement achieved by the United Nations which extends the nonproliferation treaty for an unspecified period, we must also see how best to prevent and control transfers of conventional weapons. And of course we must increase the contribution that we make to the agreement reached by the United States and North Korea to resolve the nuclear problems posed by this country.

In Japan we recently had to deal with a sarin gas attack in the subway. Terrorism is one of the matters on which we must exchange information and cooperation.

Murayama To Ask G-7 Discuss 'New' Terrorism

OW1506092195 Tokyo KYODO in English 0819 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Halifax, Canada, June 15 KYODO — Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama will propose talks among defense officials on fighting new types of terrorism as seen in the Tokyo subway gassing case, an aide to Murayama said Thursday [15 June].

Murayama will present the proposal when he meets his counterparts from other group of seven (G-7) industrial nations from Thursday to Saturday, said the official traveling with Murayama to this Nova Scotia city for the annual G-7 summit.

Murayama will appeal to other G-7 leaders to promote exchanges among their defense officials, including ministers, on how to prevent new types of terrorism, and to develop each nation's military system so as to fight them, the official said.

Murayama will suggest that recommendations on the issue be incorporated in a statement to be issued on the final day by Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien, the official said.

Pointing to the Tokyo subway case and the Oklahoma bombing, Murayama will urge other G-7 leaders to share information about terrorism and stress the need to fight any type of terrorism in a decisive manner, the official said.

The issue is one of topics on the summit agenda as the Tokyo subway attack draws attention from the other G-7 countries — Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and the United States — as a new type of terrorism capitalizing on science and technology for indiscriminate killing, he said.

In the Tokyo subway gassing in March, the nerve gas sarin was unleashed in Tokyo's subways, killing 12 people and injuring about 5,500 others.

Interview With Takemura on Summit, Other Issues

OW1406141895 Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN in Japanese 14 Jun 95 Morning Edition p 7

["Exclusive" Interview with Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura by an unidentified YOMIURI SHIMBUN reporter; date and place not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura granted an exclusive interview to YOMIURI SHIMBUN before he leaves for the Halifax summit (meeting of the leaders of the G-7 major industrialized nations) to begin in Canada on 15 June. He expressed his views on the forthcoming meeting and other issues.

In the interview, the finance minister stated that the most important economic topics on the agenda will be the foreign exchange market issue and a review of international financial organizations. On the foreign exchange issue, Takemura indicated that the G-7 nations will reconfirm their resolve to "realize an orderly reversal of foreign exchange market trends." The stance was declared in a joint statement issued at a meeting of the G-7 (finance ministers and central bank governors) in late April.

As for the review of international financial organizations, he stated that the discussion will focus on the expansion of the IMF's general arrangement to borrow (GAB) system in an effort to prevent monetary crises in newly emerging markets.

The following are the questions and answers in the Takemura interview:

[YOMIURI] What is the most important topic in the economic field?

[Takemura] The foreign exchange market issue and a review of the international financial organizations. Rapid fluctuations on the foreign exchange market have been affecting the world economy. The G-7 nations need to stress their determination to reverse foreign exchange market trends (to realize a weak yen and strong dollar). Japan wants to propose a new international financial system for managing crises designed to prevent possible confusion in newly emerging countries in Asia in the event of a monetary crisis like the one that recently struck Mexico.

[YOMIURI] On what point will an international accord likely be reached in connection with the review of international financial organizations?

[Takemura] Japan for its part wants to maintain that the IMF should be reformed so that it will have necessary systems and funds to provide emergency loans to newly emerging countries in the event of monetary crises. We hope that an international accord will be reached on this point.

[YOMIURI] What are the concrete steps for reform of the IMF?

[Takemura] Japan hopes that the IMF will establish a system of readying necessary funds to immediately cope with monetary crises by increasing funds under the GAB system and taking other measures.

[YOMIURI] Will the economic declaration at the Halifax summit include the G-7 determination to realize an "orderly reversal" of the foreign exchange movements?

[Takemura] The foreign exchange market after the meeting of G-7 finance ministers and central bank governors has failed to reflect economic fundamentals of the G-7 countries. I hope that the top G-7 leaders will discuss the foreign exchange market issue at the summit and reach a certain accord. The ideal accord is that they will "support the G-7 statement" issued in April.

[YOMIURI] Do you think other G-7 countries will make demands such as that Japan should reduce its current account surplus?

[Takemura] I do not think so. I want to explain that Japan's current account surplus is steadily decreasing with the increase of imports.

[YOMIURI] Are you going to indicate Japan's future monetary and financial policies?

[Takemura] If the economy does not steadily recover in the future, we have to seriously consider various measures around the beginning of autumn while maintaining the present stance (of expanding domestic demand). If necessary, we will once again express our determination to try to expand domestic demand.

Hashimoto Discusses Outlook for Auto Talks

OW1506081195 Tokyo TBS Television Network in Japanese 1500 GMT 14 Jun 95

["Exclusive" interview with Ryutaro Hashimoto, Japan's international trade and industry minister, by commentator Tetsuya Chikushi on 14 June before his departure for the Halifax Summit; place not given — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Chikushi] The Japan-U.S. auto talks will be resumed under the World Trade Organization [WTO], and at the subcabinet level as well. Is that right?

[Hashimoto] I wanted to discuss this issue with Mr. Kantor in Halifax. However, that may become an obstacle to the Group-of-Seven summit by attracting too much public attention. So, I met with Ambassador Mondale today, and offered him the opportunity to set a schedule for future talks. My point was that some problems can be settled if Japan and the United States clarify their policies to continue bilateral talks. I told him the top working-level officials of Japan and the United States should frankly discuss the direction of the problems in the auto and auto parts trade without any preconditions. Mr. Mondale warmly accepted my offer. At the upcoming Japan-U.S. summit, the two top leaders will be able to close their discussion on this issue by expressing their hope for fruitful talks at the subcabinet level.

[Chikushi] So, on the contrary, there will not be any Hashimoto-Kantor talks in the foreseeable future.

[Hashimoto] Well, I am not sure. At least, I think there will not be any at Halifax. I think that since we have decided on what to do, there will be no need for me to talk with Mr. Kantor in the near future.

[Chikushi] Meanwhile, the 28 June deadline set by the United States is drawing near.

[Hashimoto] As a matter of fact, the 28 June deadline is a pressure on us. However, the sanctions according to the Section 301 provision are, in a way, like a threat with a gun pointed at us, and we cannot agree to negotiate in such a manner. To settle the issue, I think there should be a clear distinction between what the Japanese Government can do and what it must not do. And I believe the government must not intervene in management decisions by private companies and change them by force, because such a concession would have an unfavorable impact on other fields. However, we are ready to offer the maximum change in regulation provided by the government.

At the same time, there is an annoying misunderstanding. What the United States, at least Mr. Kantor, is asking from me is... [pauses] The Japanese automakers announced their voluntary auto parts procurement plans in March 1994. The U.S. Government is not satisfied with them. It has gone to talk to each and every automaker. The U.S. demand has been conveyed to the auto companies; these companies have considered the demand seriously and concluded that under the present economic conditions, it will be quite impossible to append the procurement plans. They replied that they are already stretched to their limit trying to fulfill their earlier commitments. Although the United States has already confirmed that additional parts purchases are impossible, it wants the Japanese Government to order all automakers to change and even increment their parts procurement plans. This is clearly outside the government's jurisdiction. The government cannot interfere in matters of private companies' management or ask for changes in the highest management decisions made by private companies.

Apart from this, the United States is also asking the Japanese Government to come up with a "down payment" — that is the word they use — or give a figure on the intended increase in the number of dealers of foreign cars. That is also quite impossible. That is a business matter. I have told them time and again that if the United States would only do away with such unreasonable, rule-breaking demands, I think it is possible to resolve the issues of maintenance parts and dealers through serious dialogue. We really want to solve the problem. In reality, the automobile industry is already suffering damages from this. I really resent the claim that the talks are characterized by obstinacy.

[Chikushi] Reports by outsiders might have given rise to misunderstanding. I will not say it is a case of obstinacy. However, I believe the basic position of wanting to bring a stop, at this point, to the existing pattern of Japan bowing to U.S. pressure has strongly affected the negotiations.

[Hashimoto] I really resent being seen in such a light. From late September to October last year, I went to Washington twice, and together with Mr. Kono, succeeded in working out solutions for the government procurement, paper, and plate glass issues through the framework talks. At that time, the maintenance parts issue — which is certainly within the government's jurisdiction, and there is, in fact, still room for deregulation — remained unresolved. Nevertheless, if only there had not been the U.S. demand that the government change private companies' management plans and guarantee an increase in purchase plans, I would really like to solve this problem. It is really sad that I should be described as being stubborn.

[Chikushi] If the talks so far at the highest level between Messrs. Hashimoto and Kantor have not worked, I do not see bright prospects for vice ministerial talks achieving something before 28 June.

[Hashimoto] It is true that after trying, they will find it really tough. For our part, it is not possible for the government to change the management plans of private companies. It is also not possible for the government to guarantee a definite increase in the number of dealers selling foreign cars. However, apart from these areas, for example, if Japanese automakers are found to be obstructing the sale of foreign cars by dealers through their keiretsu in a manner that violates the Antimonopoly Law, I have suggested that the Ministry of International Trade and Industry is willing to create an office to accept such complaints.

Actually, once during the meeting in Canada, when a request in this respect was made by the United States, I said if this problem can be solved, I would even ask the automakers to appoint officials within their companies to deal with such complaints. But then, I was confronted with this demand on "down payment" — giving a definite numerical target — and so, the discussions broke down.

If only the United States would change the way it conducts negotiations, I think there would surely be areas where we can also make changes.

Here, let me use some of these [picks up some diagrams and charts from the table] because the bureaucrats have prepared them for me. This is an illustration of the market shares for cars in Japan according to engine displacement. You see, [showing diagram] 79.5 percent of Japanese buy cars with a displacement lower than 2,000 cc. Only 2.9 percent buy cars over 3,000 cc. Therefore, the biggest market in Japan is for cars less than 2,000 cc. However, the Big Three do not even have a model for sale in this category. Mr. Kantor often claims that the Big Three are selling 60 models here. That figure is accurate if you count the European-made "Opel" models and the Japanese-made "Mazda" models imported into Japan under the Big Three's brand names. However, in terms of models under 2,000 cc supplied directly to Japan by the Big Three, the number is zero.

On the other hand, in the over 3,000 cc category, which makes up only 2.9 percent of the market, the Big Three are doing very well. [Showing another diagram] They are selling 54 models in this category. Therefore, when it comes to market shares in cars over 3,000 cc, you will see that the United States takes up 28.5 percent, higher than the European share. Thus, the problem is not that the Japanese market is not open. It is a market where efforts to open up the market will lead to a corresponding market share. [Shows another chart] Looking at cars below 2,000 cc, European makers market 124 models here. Among them are 100 "or so" models with right-hand drives — this "or so" makes it hard to understand what we are talking about. There are many. They have also built their own facilities for pre-delivery inspection. In the case of the United States, no model under 2,000 cc; only two models with right- hand drives; and no pre-delivery inspection facility.

I think the only conclusion you can derive from this is they have not tried hard enough.

[Chikushi] Since the postwar period, there have been numerous Japan-U.S. negotiations. I think this one is taking a very unusual course.

[Hashimoto] Yes, I think it has taken a very unusual turn.

[Chikushi] This goes back to our conversation earlier: Are you, as the commander-in-chief in these negotiations, conducting the talks with a certain foresight of this happening?

[Hashimoto] I think things have changed dramatically since 30 September 1994. Up to the last minute on 30 September last year, I was desperate to find some points of compromise and to find a solution within the allowed limits of government intervention, or within the bounds of government responsibility. However, the moment we were presented with sanctions based on the Super 301 provision of the Omnibus Trade Act, I think the situation changed.

And things changed even more... [pauses] Actually, when the United States came up with the Super 301 provision sanctions, I suspended contacts on the auto issue.

[Chikushi] This should have been a problem between the Big Three and Toyota or Nissan. People have expressed doubts and raised the question of why this issue has become a government issue, and it has come to have an impact on overall Japan-U.S. relations. So, what you have just said explains what happened in the past. In addition, what is considered unusual is the exchanges that transpired between you and Mr. Kantor — this has been widely reported on. They are no longer diplomatic talks but violent wrestling. You seem to have had very heated exchanges.

[Hashimoto] [Laughs] I was very gentle.

[Chikushi] [Laughs] Oh no, the exchanges were really heated — of course, I mean the verbal exchanges. You exchanged words like: "Why did you say that?" "What proof do you have?" You allegedly have a heated debate.

[Hashimoto] Oh, that? Mr. Kantor is a talented lawyer. He rose to his present position by taking full advantage of his abilities as a lawyer. He is a wizard at negotiations, both in courtroom struggles and in out-of-court debates. Therefore, we are both very sensitive to the other party's words. Both of us seize every opportunity to point out an ambiguous word.

[Chikushi] It is said that one of the interpreters broke into tears.

[Hashimoto] That was...

[Chikushi interrupting] The exchanges were too intensive that he or she was not able to interpret them.

[Hashimoto] I think the problem was: The substance of the talks was found to be clearly inconsistent. When we pointed this out, the answer was: "I did not say that." Then, it was asked, "You said this in such and such a context." "Well, perhaps the interpreter made a mistake." "Wait, the Japanese side's interpreter did not make any mistake." The reply was: "Not your interpreter, but my interpreter." Then, the interpreter on the U.S. side broke into tears.

[Chikushi] When the negotiations become heated, all sorts of observations and comments come out. It is said that both sides are giving thought to domestic political considerations. On the U.S. side, the President's reelection strategy; and to be honest, Mr. Hashimoto, you are a future candidate for prime minister and president of the Liberal Democratic Party.

[Hashimoto] Oh no, when the discussion comes down to this, it is really annoying. If you say that, I am willing to be replaced by anybody right now. Let us have someone with such ambitions take my place. If I have such thoughts, I would not be able to go into serious negotiations. [pauses] This is not something you can do for personal ambition. I think it is really sad if there are reports like that circulating.

[Chikushi] I think you are a true cabinetman, and at the same time, you are an influential minister in the Cabinet. As a cabinetman, how do you think the deadlock in Japan-U.S. trade talks can be broken?

[Hashimoto] As methods to settle the dispute, I think there are things the Japanese Government can do and must not do. The government should not intervene in private companies' management to change their business activities because such an attitude would affect other areas of business. However, as for government regulations, we have to change them as much as possible. This morning — you are the first one to hear this — I asked chairman Toyoda of the Federation of Economic Organizations of Japan [Keidanren] to come to my office and talk about various issues facing us. I told him the government will make all-out efforts to ease government regulations — of course, some of the regulations will be abolished. But I told him, if there is any discriminative commercial practices at the private sector level, please correct such business practices. In this sense, I believe that so far, we have created the open market, and we intend to continue to open it. I ask private business circles to create an environment wherein the government can make efforts to promote market opening. I also want to ask the mass media to cooperate in this regard.

[Chikushi] Can past negotiations on the semiconductor issue be included in things that the government should not do? The government did various things to settle the issue.

[Hashimoto] There must have been various things. I feel there are slight differences between what I have heard and what I have researched on my own. During the negotiations, Japanese delegates may have said: "What do you want from us?" or "How much do you want us to buy?" There must have been unskilled negotiation techniques, or negotiators, facing public opinion created by the mass media at the time, must have had no choice but to conclude the talks. In this way, I think there lay various elements behind the negotiations on that issue. For that reason, I think it is not so meaningful to assess past negotiations as being successes or flops.

[Chikushi] You mentioned things the government can do and should not do. I think what you have said is to make clear Japan's position, which has been hardly taken during past negotiations with the United States — although each of the trade negotiations have their own background —, on that point...

[Hashimoto, interrupting] Graduating from university, I found a job at a trading house in 1960, when Japan-U.S. talks on textile goods had just started. Because of governmental level negotiations, I remember seeing, with sad feeling, cotton yarn and cloth being piled up in storage. At that time, I thought the government should conclude the negotiations, because our products remained piled up in storage. In this sense, I could say that each negotiation is concluded after considering its own social, economic, and political background with its own public opinions.

[Chikushi] Japan and the United States had very difficult talks last time, and the United States probably noticed some changes in Japan's attitude toward the bilateral negotiations, in the sense that Japan stressed there is a distinction between what Japan can do and what it must not do. When the United States understands that...

[Hashimoto, interrupting] I want to create a new framework. And I want to work out a new rule between Japan and the United States so that they can discuss their economic relations more smartly and settle negotiations without antagonism. I do want that seriously.

[Chikushi] Do you think a breakthrough will be provided in the deadlock if the two nations can tide over the current situation?

[Hashimoto] In fact, when I had a meeting with Mr. Kantor in Canada, I proposed seeing the dispute from another viewpoint, but he never listened to my proposal at that time. But I feel we have to try to see the issue from another angle on some occasion.

Auto Dealers Warn WTO Not 'Viable Solution'

*OW1506100695 Tokyo KYODO in English
0557 GMT 15 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO — The Japanese Government strategy of solving the auto trade row by bringing Washington to a World Trade Organization (WTO) tribunal will not work as U.S. dealers of luxury Japanese cars will collapse before a WTO ruling comes, the chief of the dealers' association warned Thursday [15 June].

Walter Huizenga, president of the American International Automobile Dealers Association (AIADA), issued the warning at a news conference called at the headquarters of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren).

"The WTO does not represent a viable solution for (AIADA) members," said Huizenga, who is now leading the delegation of U.S. auto dealerships that deal in 13 models of five major Japanese automakers targeted by 100 percent tariffs threatened by the administration of U.S. President Bill Clinton.

"It will take the WTO by all accounts six months to (a) year to (a) year and a half to issue a ruling and come to a decision," he said.

"When the smoke clears and that decision comes down, none of these dealers will still be in business and the damage will have been done," he said.

The AIADA groups 2,028 dealers in the United States and employs a total of 81,000 workers.

These U.S. citizens dependent on the Japanese car business "will be in jeopardy if the sanctions go into effect," he said.

"Economically, the dealers will face devastation and their employers will face layoffs," he cautioned.

Saying Japanese policymakers may be affected by a "misunderstanding" about the political and social realities in the U.S., he said both a great majority of U.S. congressional legislators and voters are behind the proposed sanctions.

"Every single public opinion poll in the United States indicates strong voter support for the President's unilateral action," he said.

"Automobiles and the automobile industry have become a symbol in America for the American politicians and for the American voters of all markets in Japan...People who are concerned about rice, lumber, cellular telephones and so on and so on see the automobiles and see this dispute as a symbol,"

"that is why you hear over and over and over in America that 'America must send a message... About the total markets' (to the Japanese)," he said.

This status of the auto fray in the minds of the Americans has made it so difficult to avert the sanctions through political means, he said.

Even if the sanctions are averted through an 11th-hour compromise, Huizenga warned, he may have to fly back to Tokyo to give a similar news conference to avert further potential sanctions in the near future, unless U.S. voters see U.S. auto sales go up in Japan and are "convinced" the Japanese market has been finally opened to foreign autos.

Murayama To Avoid Topic of Iran Aid

*OW1506084795 Tokyo KYODO in English
0828 GMT 15 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO — Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama will not tell U.S. President Bill Clinton in their upcoming meeting in Halifax, Canada, that Japan will resume its yen loans to Iran, a government spokesman said Thursday [15 June].

Murayama "will not declare the resumption of our yen loans to Iran in the Japan-U.S. summit meeting," Chief Cabinet Secretary Kozo Igarashi told a news conference.

Igarashi made the comment in response to a question on a U.S. request that Tokyo join Washington in imposing an economic embargo against Tehran.

Last week, Japan informed the United States that it will not comply with the request on the ground that it believes it is not "appropriate to isolate the country and push it in a radical direction."

Tokyo will continue considering whether to resume its yen loans in line with its own policy toward Tehran, Igarashi said.

Japan resumed extending official development assistance to Iran in May 1993, thawing an 18-year freeze on official lending to the country.

It provided 38.6 billion yen in credit as the first installment for a hydroelectric power project at the time, but postponed a decision on the second 45 billion yen installment of the aid, expected to be made last summer.

Reportage on French Nuclear Testing Plans

Tokyo Lodges Protest

OW1506045195 Tokyo KYODO in English 0418 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO — Japan told France on Thursday [15 June] that the French decision to resume nuclear testing betrays the trust of nonnuclear countries which agreed to an indefinite extension of the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT).

Vice Foreign Minister Kunihiko Saito lodged the protest in a meeting with French Ambassador to Japan Jean-Bernard Ouvrieu at the Foreign Ministry, a ministry official said.

Foreign Minister Yohei Kono on Wednesday protested France's plan to resume testing of nuclear devices in September in the Pacific, during a telephone conversation with French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette.

Saito told Ouvrieu the French decision is extremely regrettable and a betrayal of the trust of nonnuclear countries.

The NPT's credibility would be lost as a result of France's announcement because the treaty's review conference in New York agreed that nuclear countries should restrict nuclear testing until the comprehensive test ban treaty is concluded, Saito said.

As the only country to have suffered atomic bombings, Japan is "extremely sensitive" about nuclear weapons, Saito said, and urged France to continue its moratorium on nuclear testing.

He also expressed hope that the decision will not harm overall Japan-french relations.

Ouvrieu told Saito he understands the Japanese people's sensitivity toward nuclear weapons but that not everything is negative about the latest French decision, the official said.

The French ambassador said France has pledged to sign the test ban treaty by 1996, and cited this and the limited number of nuclear tests until May next year as positive factors, the official said.

He also told saito he was shocked by the vice minister's use of the word "betray," which he said was "too strong" a word, according to the ministry official.

French President Jacques Chirac announced Tuesday night that France will resume nuclear testing in September and conduct eight tests in the South Pacific before next May.

In a related development, the Hiroshima and Nagasaki chapters of the Social Democratic Party-affiliated Japan Congress Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikin) on Thursday urged French President Chirac to freeze his country's nuclear tests.

The two chapters, based in the only two cities to suffer the atomic bombing in the closing days of World War II, issued their calls in documents sent to the french embassy in Tokyo in response to Chirac's announcement.

Chirac said France will conduct eight tests at its South Pacific site by next May in time to sign a comprehensive test ban treaty.

The Gensuikin Hiroshima branch document points out that early conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty was affirmed in May at an international conference in New York which agreed to the indefinite extension of the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

The document states that a resumption of the tests could lead to a breakdown of the treaty.

It also condemns China, the only other country which is conducting nuclear tests, for taking similar action.

A similar document from the Nagasaki branch said the French move represents a reversal of international opinion which is moving from nuclear arms reduction toward the total abolition of nuclear weapons.

French Decision Criticized

OW1506085495 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 15 Jun 95 Evening Edition p 2

[Article by Shota Kobayashi: "France's Resumption of Nuclear Testing Throws Cold Water on Nuclear Disarmament"]

[FBIS Translated Text] France has pursued its own independent defense policy since former President de Gaulle decided to pull his country out of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1966. President Chirac, who advocates de Gaulle's defense policy, decided to carry out his belief in the need to maintain

France's nuclear deterrent capability, despite anticipated criticism from abroad. The French president's decision to resume France's nuclear tests comes at a time when other nuclear powers, with the exception of China, have put their nuclear tests under a moratorium. It is a matter of course that his decision is being viewed by the international community as self-indulgent. There is a possibility that the president's decision to resume nuclear tests will have an adverse impact on France's standing in the international community and on the trend of nuclear disarmament that is moving from the indefinite extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) to a comprehensive ban on nuclear tests.

The reasons cited by the French president for resumption of nuclear tests are: 1) Experts are in consensus about the need to resume France's nuclear tests; 2) France is resuming nuclear tests with the justifiable aim of securing the safety and reliability of its nuclear weapons, not of improving their functions; 3) France promises to halt nuclear tests permanently after completing these nuclear tests. President Chirac also indicated that France would examine the possibility of closing the underground silo in the southeastern town of Avignon where 18 surface-to-surface strategic missiles are based.

In France, while some maintain: "We see no reason why France should be unable to increase the reliability of its nuclear weapons using simulation facilities scheduled for completion by the year 2005-2010," others point out: "The need to resume the nuclear tests will bring about a great loss to French foreign policy."

It is certain that France will encounter a strong backlash from South Pacific nations located near the site where France will conduct the nuclear tests, and non-nuclear nations. In May this year, the NPT was extended indefinitely to make the world free of nuclear weapons. In the eyes of many nations that supported the indefinite extension of the NPT, France's resumption of nuclear tests runs counter to its ideals. The United States and Russia, both nuclear superpowers, have criticized France for resuming the nuclear tests, saying: "We wonder why France is going to modernize its nuclear weapons at a time when other nuclear powers intend to promote nuclear disarmament." Concerns will certainly grow over France's attitude toward international cooperation.

Greenpeace, an environmental protection organization, has already sent its ship "Rainbow Warrior No.2" to waters off the site where France is to conduct the nuclear tests and it is now poised to protest against France over resumption of nuclear tests. The French intelligence agency exploded "Rainbow Warrior No. 1" when it was taking protest actions in 1985. The Chirac government will find it hard to deal with protest actions to be taken by Greenpeace.

Canada Shares Concern

OW1506054195 Tokyo KYODO in English 0229 GMT 15 Jun 95

[By William Mallard]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Halifax, Canada, June 14 KYODO — Japanese and Canadian foreign ministers expressed concern Wednesday [14 June] over french plans to resume nuclear weapons tests, a day before the three countries join a major power summit, a Japanese official said.

Meeting ahead of the Group of Seven (G-7) summit, Yohei Kono of Japan and Andre Ouellet of Canada both expressed concern over France's announced plans for South Pacific bomb tests but they did not discuss protests or any other possible action, the Foreign Ministry official told reporters on condition of anonymity.

Kono was quoted as telling Ouellet he had received a "regrettable phone call" earlier in the day before coming to Halifax from French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette telling him of France's decision, which comes shortly after an indefinite extension was agreed for the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Kono responded that the French move "betrays the confidence held by the nonnuclear weapons nations," the official said.

Ouellet told Kono he agreed completely and expressed concern that France's move could prompt other countries to test atomic weapons, the official said. Canadian officials were not available for comment on the meeting.

The Japanese official said Ouellet showed some sympathy for Japanese caution over sending peacekeeping troops to the golan heights occupied by israel. The canadian minister showed understanding for Japan's "sensitivity" on the issue, he said.

They left detailed discussion of the issue for Thursday's meeting between Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama and Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien, the official said.

Canada has expressed hope for another nation to replace its peacekeepers in the area.

A Japanese delegation to the Golan Heights advised that Tokyo could participate under Japan's restrictive peacekeeping law, but any such move has been held up by opposition from Murayama's Social Democratic

Party and some in the ruling coalition giant Liberal Democratic Party.

Ouellet discussed concerns about development aid going to countries with heavy military spending but did not mention China or any other specific countries, the official said.

Kono explained Japanese aid principles but said assistance policy is complicated and cannot be run "according to a manual," and both ministers agreed they would like to discuss the issue further, the official said.

Kono Views French Nuclear Tests, Golan Mission

OW1506023295 Tokyo KYODO in English 0201 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Halifax, Canada, June 14 KYODO — Japan's Foreign Minister Yohei Kono on Wednesday [14 June] expressed concern over France's intention to resume nuclear tests in the South Pacific later this year, Japanese officials said.

The officials said Kono expressed the concern during a meeting with Canadian Foreign Minister Andre Ouellet at a hotel in Halifax, the Nova Scotia port town which is the site of the summit of leaders of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations, starting Thursday. The G-7 groups Britain, Canada, France, Germany, italy, Japan, and the United States.

French President Jacques Chirac announced Tuesday that France will resume its nuclear testing in the South Pacific in September with eight underground nuclear explosions.

Kono told Ouellet that if the French tests proceed, France will lose the trust of nonnuclear countries in view of the wording of a resolution accepted at an international conference in New York last month on the indefinite extension of the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in which the treaty's adherants, including France, undertook to restrict tests.

Ouellet told Kono that the resumption of the French tests raises the danger that other nuclear powers will do the same, the officials said.

The treaty prohibits nonnuclear states from producing, acquiring or possessing nuclear weapons but allows the five declared nuclear powers — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — to have them, although they are asked to reduce their arsenals.

The officials also said Kono told Ouellet that Japan's stance on its possible participation in UN Peacekeeping operations in the Israeli-held golan heights will be explained at a meeting of prime ministers of Japan and Canada.

Ouellet expressed understanding over Japan's delicate political stance over the issue, the officials said.

The United Nations wants Japanese personnel to replace 50 Canadian members of the Syria-based UN Disengagement Observer Force whose transport duties are set to expire in October in the Golan Heights, which were captured by Israel from Syria in 1967.

But the Japanese Government has been unable to make a clear decision on the matter because of differences of opinion among the three governing coalition parties.

The largest coalition member, the Liberal Democratic Party, supports participation, but New Party Sakigake and Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama's Social Democratic Party are taking a more cautious stance.

The officials said Murayama is likely to explain the Japanese Government's thinking on the peacekeeping proposal at a meeting with Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien on Thursday.

Kono Praises U.S.-DPRK Nuclear Accord

OW1406105295 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 14 Jun 95 Morning Edition p 3

[FBIS Translated Text] Commenting on the fact that the United States and the DPRK have reached a settlement on the question of supplying light-water reactors to the DPRK, Yohei Kono, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said, "Insomuch as the supplying of ROK-model light-water reactors has been confirmed, the common ground of Japan, the United States, and the ROK has been secured." As the rough-going U.S.-DPRK negotiations have been the major impediment to the resumption of the Japan-DPRK normalization talks, a senior Foreign Ministry official said, "By this settlement, the environment for resuming government-to-government talks has become ripe." The Foreign Ministry will hurry toward the resumption of the normalization talks and will hasten to establish the time and venue for the talks through informal contacts with the DPRK.

Foreign Minister Kono, on the evening of 13 June, announced a statement welcoming the settlement of the U.S.-DPRK talks. He praised the U.S. Government's "patient efforts to negotiate while keeping Japan and the ROK closely in contact," and called on North Korea: 1) To continue its freeze on the operation of the atomic power-related facilities, based on the U.S.-DPRK agreement; and 2) to act positively toward faithful implementation of the U.S.-DPRK agreement by taking part in negotiations with the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) seriously. Regarding Japan's actions hereafter, Kono said the government will do the best it can in cooperation with the United States and the ROK to proceed with the project of supplying the light-water reactors.

"But further twists and turns are expected before North Korea will arrive at a formal agreement with KEDO on the supply of light- water reactors," according to a Foreign Ministry official. Some officials predicted "such a long, tedious task as to make the negotiators swoon." Meanwhile, it is not clear how seriously North Korea will face the issue of improving relations with South Korea. Thus, Japan will have the problem of not being able to ignore developments in South-North Korea relations in proceeding with talks with North Korea. No small number of people within the government and the ruling parties call for caution, saying, "Japan must watch North Korea a little longer."

As far as the question of supplying rice to North Korea in aid is concerned, some think that matter can make progress now that a settlement has been reached in the U.S.-DPRK talks, but many others note that to guess from the past position of North Korea, "It is difficult to think North Korea will accept rice from South Korea readily." Apparently, the recent U.S.-DPRK agreement will have little effect in initiating a sudden development on the question of Japan supplying rice to North Korea.

Financial Burden Expected From Accord

OW1506114195 Tokyo SANKEI SHIMBUN in Japanese 14 Jun 95 Morning Edition p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] The 13 June agreement between the United States and the DPRK [North Korea] on the granting of light-water reactors is likely to increase the Japanese Government's financial burden, presently estimated at $1 billion.

The U.S.-North Korean agreement clearly noted "expenditures for developing the construction site" will be included in the light-water reactor aid provided by the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO). Following the accord, North Korea will urge KEDO members to offer additional expenditures for training centers, roads, port facilities, and power cables around the new nuclear plants.

The Japanese Government has not clarified how much Japan should spend in KEDO since "the total amount of the project is not fixed yet" (as noted by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yohei Kono). So far, the KEDO project is expected to cost approximately $4 billion "when two ROK-type reactors are built in the DPRK" (according to a senior Foreign Ministry official), and Japan will have to share about $1 billion.

However, the coverage of the KEDO aid may be extended as the latest U.S.-North Korean accord newly advocated development projects around the reactor construction site in Sinpo, a city on the east coast of the Korean Peninsula. North Korea is reportedly urging KEDO to spend an additional $1 billion. Depending on the development of future negotiations, Japan's burden "may increase by more than $100 million" (as noted by a Foreign Ministry source).

The total cost of the project will be finalized in a supply contract, which will be concluded after an on-the-spot survey by KEDO. The upcoming negotiations are likely to face rough going on the definition of the coverage of the KEDO aid.

Editorial on U.S.-DPRK Nuclear Accord

OW1406145895 Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 14 Jun 95 Morning Edition p 7

[Editorial: "Sincere Implementation of U.S.-North Korean Accord Needed"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The DPRK (North Korea) has finally agreed with the United States to accept light-water reactors virtually designed by the ROK. The accord was reached over two years after the outbreak of suspicion about North Korea's nuclear weapons development, and eight months has already passed since the signing of the October 1994 agreement between the United States and North Korea on the framework of reactor aid. North Korea was supposed to accept it earlier, but it is not too late. We hope North Korea will implement its agreement in a sincere manner to completely dispel any suspicion about its nuclear weapons development.

There are some possible reasons for the North Korean decision to accept the ROK-type reactors. The top reason should be the fact that North Korea's economic situation has become much worse than expected. In particular, the food shortage triggered by a poor crop last year is becoming serious, and the nation is facing a food crisis until the next harvest in fall. Aid from Western countries is unlikely as long as the reactor issue remains unsettled.

With the first anniversary of the death of former President Kim Il-song near at hand, North Korea is supposed to announce a definite successor as soon as possible. The deadlock over talks with the United States has been an obstacle to preparing a mood for a happy celebration of Secretary Kim Chong-il's inauguration as the new supreme leader.

In other words, to accept the ROK-type reactors was the only possible choice for North Korea.

We hope North Korea will upgrade exchanges with the ROK. During the reactor construction project, a considerable number of ROK technicians will have to visit North Korea. We hope they will be smoothly accepted by the North. Intergovernment talks should be resumed as soon as possible between the two Korean nations. At least, they are supposed to immediately stop blaming each other.

Progress in the North-South dialogue would pave the way for Japan's rice aid to North Korea. Moreover, the Japan-North Korea normalization talks, which have been suspended since November 1992, are likely to be placed on the agenda under the better situation in the Korean peninsula. A delegation of the coalition parties visited Pyongyang last March, and agreed with the Korean Workers' Party on an early resumption of the normalization talks. Yet, stalled negotiations with the United States and the ROK have been obstacles to the resumption of the normalization talks.

The settlement of the reactor talks will become a clue to break the deadlock over relations between Japan and North Korea. We must repeat, however, that would be impossible without North Korea's sincere attitude toward implementation of the latest accord with the United States.

We also hope Pyongyang will seriously engage in talks with the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) to achieve an early settlement. If North Korean negotiators try to use the loading of fuel rods into existing reactors as a bargaining chip for the upcoming negotiations, such an attitude may ruin the progress. North Korea should be aware that it must not waste anymore time.

Coalition To Review DPRK Rice Aid Issue

SK1506122695 Seoul YONHAP in English 1220 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, June 15 (YONHAP) — The Japanese coalition ruling parties intend to make a concrete study of the issue of providing rice to North Korea shortly, believing that there is a progress in the South-North rice talks being held in Beijing, the NHK reported Thursday.

The coalition ruling parties plan to ask their government to review the rice issue concretely as soon as a progress in the Beijing rice talks is confirmed.

The parties believe that successful settlement of the South-North rice talks would amount to sufficing the precondition for Japan's provision of rice to North Korea.

LDP Seeking DPRK Rice Aid by 20 Jun

OW1506123795 Tokyo SANKEI SHIMBUN in Japanese 14 Jun 95 Morning Edition p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] Japan will send rice to the DPRK, which is suffering from a food shortage, as early as 20 June. This was a plan promoted by some quarters in the ruling parties. Revealing this on 13 June, a source close to the Japan-DPRK negotiators also said the shipment is already being prepared at Yokohama and other ports.

During a party meeting held in Tokyo, a top Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] executive explained various LDP party policies, and clarified that: "Japan wants to normalize its relations with the DPRK under the Murayama administration." Regarding rice aid, the executive said: "The ROK takes the position that it cannot accept the unconditional aid plan to the DPRK. Given this situation, Japan, for its part, is seeking the right time, occasion, and place to initiate rice aid. However, we have been preparing to send rice (to the DPRK) sometime around 20 June."

On 13 June, touching on the same issue, another LDP senior executive said: "It is true that there was a plan to send rice to the DPRK as early as 20 June. But the plan may be postponed because we now intend to take joint action with the ROK in deciding whether or not to send rice."

Contrary to these remarks, several senior LDP executives have been working on the government to quickly materialize the aid plan. It appears that an intraparty agreement has already been made within the LDP to strive for the early implementation of rice aid.

The DPRK officially requested rice aid when Yi Song-nok, Korean International Trade Promotion Committee chairman, met with former Vice Prime Minister Michio Watanabe in late May. In response, Japan has been studying sending approximately 300,000 tons of surplus imported rice to this communist state from "a humanitarian viewpoint." However, rough going has been observed in the government-level coordination since the ROK said: "We want to send rice first, to promote the South-North Korean dialogue."

North Korea Not Attending UN Peace Symposium

OW1506111495 Tokyo KYODO in English 1006 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kanazawa, Japan, June 15 KYODO — North Korea has reportedly bowed out of a United Nations-sponsored symposium on peace in northeast Asia, which is slated to be held in the Sea of

Japan coastal prefecture of Ishikawa later this month, prefectural government officials said Thursday.

The UN Regional Center for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific has informed the prefectural government's office for international exchanges that North Korea has decided not to send any delegates to the June 22-23 UN Symposium on Northeast Asia in Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture, the officials said.

The office suggested that it may be too early to expect the North Korean delegates to participate in a Northeast Asian symposium since the nuclear situation on the Korean Peninsula is at a "delicate stage."

Symposium organizers had expected North Korea's two delegates attending a UN disarmament conference currently being held in Nagasaki to take part in the Kanazawa symposium.

The two delegates are members of the North Korean Foreign Ministry in charge of disarmament issues.

Kono: No Change in Position on PRC Issues

OW1406120695 Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 14 Jun 95 Morning Edition p 7

[FBIS Translated Text] Yohei Kono, deputy prime minister and concurrently foreign minister, expressed his negative view over the fact that, after returning from the United States Taiwan President Li Teng-hui asked for the Japanese Government's understanding and cooperation on his visit to Japan. At a news conference held after the cabinet meeting on 13 June, Kono said: "There is no change in our position that we will deal with issues like this while complying with the spirit of the Japan-PRC joint statement." In saying so, Kono indicated that the government cannot accept a visit to Japan by the Taiwan president.

Pro-Taiwan Lawmakers Urge Tokyo Visit by Li

OW1506081895 Tokyo KYODO in English 0846 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO — Pro-Taiwan lawmakers decided Thursday [15 April] to press the government to permit Taiwan President Li Teng-hui to visit Japan this fall.

They suggested that Li be allowed to visit Japan in November for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum meeting, or for a reunion at Kyoto University, his undergraduate alma mater.

Takeo Hiranuma, secretary general of a pro-Taiwan Diet members league, said, "President Li's visit to Cornell University in the United States produced major results."

"It is only natural that President Li from the Republic of China (Taiwan), an economic power in Asia, attend the APEC conference," Hiranuma said.

On Monday, Li said that a visit to Japan depends upon the Japanese. He was speaking on arrival home after his landmark visit to the U.S. to attend a reunion at Cornell University, where he completed a doctoral degree.

Beijing regards Taiwan as a renegade province and has vehemently opposed Li's diplomatic overtures in the international arena. China strongly protested at Li being granted a visa to visit the United States.

Li was invited to attend the opening ceremonies of the Hiroshima Asian games last fall, but declined after Beijing protested. Deputy Premier Hsu Li-te attended instead.

Hsu is the highest-ranking official from Taiwan to have visited Japan since Tokyo switched its official recognition from Taipei to Beijing in 1972.

Coalition To Form Stock Market Project Team

OW1506114895 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO — The three ruling coalition parties decided Thursday [15 June] to create a joint project group to deal with financial issues such as a protracted slump in the domestic stock markets, party officials said.

Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama's Social Democratic Party, the Liberal Democratic Party and new party Sakigake [Harbinger] will set up the organization as early as next week.

The body will study ways to dispose of 6 trillion yen worth of nonperforming loans held by the nation's seven housing loan companies and to revitalize the stagnant stock market, they said.

Mori Calls for 'Effective' Financial Measures

OW1506105995 Tokyo KYODO in English 0508 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nagoya, June 15 KYODO — Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Secretary General Yoshiro Mori said Thursday [15 June] the government should come up with effective financial measures to prop up the faltering economy.

Mori, in a speech, suggested reviews of the tax on profits from land transactions, the land value tax and the securities transaction tax as possible boosters for the limping economy and the groggy stock market.

The LDP is one component of the ruling coalition along with Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama's Social Democratic Party [of Japan] SDPJ] and New Party Sakigake [Harbinger].

"The most urgent task (for the Murayama government) is to put together measures to give a thrust to the economy and business," he said.

Mori quoted Murayama as saying the slumping stock market is posing a difficult problem for the sound capital market.

He stressed the need to revitalize the securities market and enhance the liquidity of the land market for ensuring economic recovery.

Housing Loan Firm To Review Renovation Plan

*OW1506094695 Tokyo KYODO in English
0834 GMT 15 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO — Housing Loan Service Co. intends to thoroughly review its 10-year management rehabilitation plan as the continued slump in the real estate market has made it extremely difficult to realize the plan, financial sources said Thursday [15 June].

Housing Loan Service, one of Japan's seven housing loan firms, saddled with huge bad loans, will work out a new rehabilitation plan by this Autumn through talks with seven founder banks including Dai-Ichi Kangyo, Fuji, Mitsubishi, Sumitomo and Sakura Banks, the sources said.

But the talks with the seven banks will include the question of whether the company should continue to exist, the sources added.

The existing plan was adopted in 1993 and features the lowering or suspension of interest payments granted by creditors. But the plan appears unlikely to be completed because the firm has failed to collect capital as scheduled, due to the real estate market slump, and has been facing a drop in interest earnings caused by lower interest rates and an increase in bad loans.

Housing Loan Service had net liabilities in fiscal 1994 which ended March 31, with bad loans accounting for 70.4 percent of its total loans worth 1,428.5 billion yen. The bad loan ratio is the highest among the seven loan firms.

The company will review its rehabilitation plan as the Finance Ministry called for housing loan firms to reconsider their reconstruction programs when it released a package of measures to deal with problem loans last Wednesday, the sources said.

The six other firms are thought certain to follow suit.

Former Minister Yamaguchi Tied to Shady Loans

*OW1406055795 Tokyo KYODO in English
0353 GMT 14 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO — Former Labor Minister Toshio Yamaguchi stood security for some 1.43 billion yen that a company run by his relatives borrowed from a firm linked with the former head of a failed credit union, investigative sources said Wednesday [14 June].

The company run by Yamaguchi's relatives had obtained some 1.59 billion yen in loans from Sea-Com Corp., a listed shipping firm, by 1992, and Yamaguchi stood as guarantor for about 90 percent of the amount, the sources said.

Sea-Com Corp. is affiliated with EIE International Corp., which is headed by Harunori Takahashi, former president of now-defunct Tokyo Kyowa Credit Association.

Yamaguchi's personal guarantee of the debts was revealed in a report compiled by officials of the Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan who had been dispatched to EIE International.

Yamaguchi has repeatedly denied he was personally involved in the receipt of huge loans extended without sufficient collateral to his relatives' firms.

But several sources close to Takahashi said they believe the lack of collateral was compensated for by Yamaguchi's personal guarantee, and that most of the loans were used for investments in securities.

Yamaguchi's alleged standing as surety for the illegal loans is likely to become a focus of attention on his testimony before the House of Representatives Budget Committee scheduled for Saturday.

Yamaguchi, along with former Defense Agency chief Keisuke Nakanishi, will be summoned to the committee as a sworn witness on a financial scandal involving Tokyo Kyowa and Anzen Credit Bank, another failed credit union.

In March, Yamaguchi quit the largest opposition party Shinshinto (New Frontier Party), following the revelation of shady loans to companies run by his relatives from the two credit unions.

Yamaguchi's office declined to comment on the alleged personal guarantee of the debts, saying it could not contact him.

Prosecutors are investigating a number of suspected illegal loans made by the two credit unions. Takahashi and the former president of Anzen Credit Bank, Shinsuke Suzuki, have been accused of breach of trust by extending such loans, knowing they could not be collected.

The Finance Ministry and the Bank of Japan drafted a bailout plan calling for pumping public funds into a special bank set up to take over the operations of the two failed institutions.

Nakanishi, a senior member of Shinshinto, resigned from the lower house last month following the arrest of his son for possessing hashish. He said his resignation had nothing to do with the financial scandal.

Outline of 'Comfort Women' Fund Unveiled

OW1406115695 Tokyo KYODO in English
1019 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO — Japan on Wednesday [14 June] unveiled the outline of a private fund project to compensate women forced into sexual servitude for Japanese soldiers before and during World War II.

The Asia Peace and Friendship Fund for Women, a fund to be set up in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the war's end, will begin its fund-raising campaign as soon as possible to pay a "solatium" to such women, referred to in Japan as "comfort women," Chief Cabinet Secretary Kozo Igarashi told a news conference.

"With the participation of people and the government's responsibility, we will start the Asian Peace and Friendship Fund For Women to express a sense of deep remorse and atonement" for Japan's forced recruitment of women as prostitutes, he said.

An estimated 80,000 to 200,000 women, mostly Koreans but also Filipinas, Indonesians, Chinese and Dutch, were forced to serve as comfort women at front-line brothels for the Japanese Imperial Army before and during the war.

Igarashi offered an apology to the women, to whom he said Japan's behavior had caused "unbearable suffering" and "incurable pains."

He also said the government will subsidize the planned fund so that medical and other social welfare services can be financed for former comfort women.

Tokyo will express sincere remorse and offer an apology to such women when it actually pays the "consolation" money to them, Igarashi said.

Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama is anxious to send letters to former comfort women so he can show contrition himself, Igarashi said.

The spokesman also said the Japanese Government will collect and catalog historical documents on comfort women to learn lessons from history.

It will also spend public money so the planned fund can support schemes aimed at restoring the honor and dignity of women as a whole, according to Igarashi.

The fund will be launched within the scope of programs to settle the issue of war reparations beginning this year, which marks the 50th anniversary of the war's end. Murayama announced the plans last August.

His government has since decided to spend some 24.6 billion yen as part of the national budget for fiscal 1995, which started April 1, to finance the programs, including a 500 million yen plan to cover the operational costs of the comfort women fund.

Igarashi was ambiguous on exactly when a fund-raising campaign would begin.

He said the government hopes to start paying consolation money to former comfort women by the end of this anniversary year but acknowledged such a scenario is too ambitious.

"We wish to strive to start doing so by the end of the year. That's our ideal," he said.

The planned fund will be established within a new body and collect contributions through other private institutions such as the Japanese Red Cross Society and the Japanese National Council of Social Welfare.

Tokyo will assess the number of women qualified for a solatium in close consultations with the countries concerned, Igarashi said, adding the project will win the understanding of those who have voiced opposition to it.

He also declined to specify the target sum to be collected through the planned fund.

Igarashi announced a list of 13 originators of the project, who will seek public cooperation in giving donations and helping the fund pay consolation money to former comfort women.

Among them are former Education Minister Ryoko Akamatsu, Jinnosuke Ashida, chairman of the Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Rengo), Mutsuko Miki, the widow of former Prime Minister Takeo Miki and Isamu Miyazaki, chairman of the Daiwa Institute of Research.

Igarashi: Fund Reflects Remorse

OW1506060095 Tokyo KYODO in English
0340 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO — A private fund project to compensate women forced in sexual servitude for Japanese soldiers before and during World War II reflects Tokyo's deep repentance for its wartime behavior, the top government spokesman said Thursday [15 June].

Chief Cabinet Secretary Kozo Igarashi said at a news conference the Fund Project, the outline of which was unveiled Wednesday, is a clear reflection of Tokyo's desire to express deep remorse for its forced recruitment of women as sex slaves.

"As for the issue of 'comfort women,' we feel deep remorse for having seriously stained the honor and dignity of women," he said.

An estimated 80,000 to 200,000 women, mostly Koreans but also Filipinas, Indonesians, Chinese and Dutch, were forced to serve as sex slaves, euphemistically called "comfort women," at front-line brothels for the Japanese Imperial Army before and during the war.

The planned Asia peace and friendship fund for women, a private fund to be set up in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the war's end, will begin a fund-raising campaign as soon as possible to pay a "solatium" to former sex slaves.

The government will also funnel public money into the project to help the fund to finance medical and other social welfare services for such women.

Aum Affiliate Accused of Copyright Infringement

OW1406134395 Tokyo KYODO in English 1312 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nagoya, June 14 KYODO — Police have obtained an arrest warrant for a follower of the religious cult Aum Shinrikyo on suspicion of selling personal computers containing copied popular software without the makers' permission, police sources said Wednesday [14 June].

The sources said police want the follower, who is an employee at the Nagoya branch of a personal computer sales company run by the sect.

The company, Maha Posya, is alleged to have infringed patents for popular Japanese language word processing software "Ichitaro" of Just System in Tokushima Prefecture and "Lotus 1-2-3" of Lotus in Tokyo.

The company is headed by the cult's founder Shoko Asahara, who has been indicted on murder and attempted murder charges in connection with the March 20 deadly sarin gas attack in Tokyo subways. Most of the company's employees are cult followers.

The firm, famous for its aggressive pricing and marketing, is believed to be the core of the cult's fund-raising machine, with diversified business operations including cafes and noodle shops.

The follower in question sold, over a period between January and April, three personal computers after copying "Ichitaro" and "Lotus 1-2-3" and installing them into the machines.

The two software makers filed complaints against Maha Posya with the Aichi Prefectural Police over the alleged patent infringement.

Two other employees of the company are also suspected to have been involved in the illegal sales of computers, police sources said.

The company has also reportedly infringed the software patents of IBM Japan Ltd. by using the software in its personal computers without IBM's permission.

IBM Japan, a Japanese subsidiary of International Business Machines Corp., is investigating the alleged infringement of its patents on software called DOS 5.0, a spokesman for IBM Japan has said.

North Korea

Daily on Unification, Mutual N-S Respect

SK1506054795 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0455 GMT 15 Jun 95

["Unity on Principle of Subordinating Everything to Cause of National Reunification" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA) — The principle of subordinating everything to the cause of national reunification is a just principle which is capable of turning the reunification cause into a nationwide work and accelerating it through a nationwide struggle by making the whole nation turn out as one in the struggle for the independent reunification of the country with consciousness and responsibility befitting the master of the common cause of the nation, irrespective of region and class. This is said by an article of NODONG SINMUN today.

The author of the article says:

What is important in achieving the great unity of the whole nation is that the North and the South recognize each other's idea and ideology and system, respect them, not encroach upon them but make progress and prosperity together and place the interests of the whole nation above the regional and class interests and direct all the efforts to achieving the cause of national reunification. This is the only way for our fellow countrymen and our nation to live.

The success or failure of the cause of national reunification depends on how the fellow countrymen and people from all walks of life in the North, the South and overseas unite and struggle.

If the Korean people put the regional and class interests on the national interests or struggle for class requirement instead of national reunification, far from striving to reunify the country on the principle of placing the common interests of the nation before anything else, the reunification of our nation cannot be achieved any time and this will be a great crime against the country and the nation.

The principle of promoting co-existence, co-prosperity and common interests and subordinating everything to the cause of national reunification is the fundamental principle of the great unity of the whole nation which most thoroughly reflects the aspiration of the nation and the common interests of the nation.

When our fellow countrymen unite on the principle of subordinating everything to the common interests of the nation and the cause of national reunification, they can build a pan-national unified state through confederation which can promote co-existence, co-prosperity and common interests, leaving the two systems and two governments as they are in the North and the South and doing no harm to any side and anyone.

U.S., ROK 12-13 Jun Military Exercises Noted

SK1506051295 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0427 GMT 15 Jun 95

["Military Exercises and Provocations" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA) — The U.S. imperialist warmaniacs on Tuesday staged day-and-night air strike exercises, in partnership with the South Korean puppets, in the skies above Sangdong and Anmyon and Tokjok islets of South Korea, military sources said.

Participating in this war game aimed at a preemptive attack on the northern half of Korea were more than 600 fighter planes of different types, carrier-based assault planes, reconnaissance planes and observation planes from the U.S. Pacific Fleet, the U.S. Seventh Air Force in South Korea and the puppet Air Force.

On the same day, the South Korean puppets had a sea transport operation and a river-crossing operation simulating an invasion of the North in the mouth of the River Imjin under the eyes of the North side.

Meanwhile, over 700 puppet army troops took positions all at once in the western sector of the front and took a firing posture towards the North side. And 20 odd military vehicles and seven tanks advanced rapidly, coiling up the tension in the forefront.

On the 12th and 13th, the South Korean puppets introduced in succession troops, 90 mm recoilless guns and 88.9 mm anti-tank rockets in the Demilitarized Zone in the western, central and eastern sectors of the front, and committed grave military provocations against the North.

If the U.S. imperialist warmaniacs and the Kim Yong-sam group ignite a war, we will deal a heavy blow to them.

Groups Criticize ROK Police Raids on Churches

SK1406104195 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA) — Buddhist, Roman Catholic and Christian church councils of South Korea made public a declaration on the situation at the Myongdong Cathedral on June 12 in which they accused the Kim Yong-sam fascist group of the recent police raid on the Myongdong Cathedral and the Chogye Temple for the suppression of sit-in strikers, according to a radio report from Seoul.

The declaration was signed by more than 1,000 religionists.

On the same day, the Chogye Temple also published a declaration on the situation with the signatures of some 1,080 Buddhists.

In the declarations, the religionists branded the police raid on the Myongdong Cathedral and the Chogye Temple as a violation of holy places and demanded an official apology of the "government".

In another development, Cardinal Kim Su-hwan in a mass preaching on June 11 criticized the puppet government for hurling police into religious holy places and walking away trade union cadres of the telecommunication co. and demanded their release.

Catholics Denounce Suppression of ROK Workers

SK1406103395 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA) — The Central Committee of the Korean Roman Catholics Association published a statement on Tuesday denouncing the Kim Yong-sam fascist clique for launching an unprecedentedly outrageous suppression of South Korean workers who are calling for vital rights.

The Kim Yong-sam group on June 6 threw police even into a cathedral and the Chogye Temple in Seoul to walk away leading unionists, the statement noted, adding: This fascist outrage is tantamount to an open declaration on obliterating religion such as Roman Catholicism and Buddhism in South Korea.

It said:

The reality clearly shows that with the traitor Kim Yong-sam left alone free religionist activities and the right to existence cannot be ensured in South Korea, nor can the reunification of the country be realized.

The Kim Yong-sam group must stop the fascist repression of South Korean workers and democratic forces at once, apologize for its crimes of having turned even religion establishments into confused places at the point of the bayonet and step down from power without delay.

The statement expressed the belief that all the Catholics and good-minded people would lift up their louder voices denouncing the Kim Yong-sam group's anti-religion moves.

ROK Catholics Denounce Labor 'Suppression'

SK1506103095 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA) — An estimated 20,000 priests and believers affiliated with Catholic Seoul Archdiocese and local parishes held a mass on situation at Myongdong Cathedral in Seoul on Tuesday in which they published the second statement denouncing the fascist clique's suppression of labour movement, according to a radio report from Seoul.

In the statement they accused the fascist clique of having hurled police into religious holy places and declared that they would launch a stronger struggle unless the traitor Kim Yong-sam makes an open apology for the raid until June 20.

Earlier, on Monday the Catholic Wonju Parish Priests' Association called a special prayer meeting with the attendance of more than 1,000 believers, at which it decided to stage an indefinite hunger strike until the authorities make a sincere apology and an immediate probe into the truth behind the raid on the cathedral and punish the chief culprits.

After the special prayer meeting, the participants staged a candle demonstration along the main streets in the city of Wonju.

The Telecommunication Co. Trade Union called a press conference on Monday at which it proved the reasonableness of their struggle.

It contended that the struggle was motivated by "the company's unreasonable practices in relation to labour and punishment of leading unionists," and strongly demanded withdrawal of the step of cracking down upon the union leaders.

In another development, over 100 students affiliated with the Seoul district Federation of General Student Councils staged a demonstration on Monday in demand of the release of the colleagues who had been imprisoned after taking part in the attack on the "Japanese Cultural Centre".

In literature the students contended that it is a contradictory deed to have walked away students in anti-Japanese struggle while refusing to punish such military rebels as Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u.

South Criticized for 'Faked-Up' Union Case

SK1506051895 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 15 Jun 95

["South Korean Puppets' Announcement of Faked-Up Case Condemned" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA) — Dailies here today condemn the Kim Yong-sam fascist clique's recent announcement of a faked-up case of the "proletarian union for class struggle" as a clumsy drama that can not work on anyone and as an ill-intentioned ruse.

It is a habitual method of the traitorous Kim Yong-sam clique to divert elsewhere the attention of people at home and abroad and tide over the ruling crisis by fabricating and making public a shocking case, each time the people's anti-"government" struggle heats up and the "government" crisis deepens for the worse, a NODONG SINMUN analyst says.

Touching on the background of the case fabricated and announced hurriedly by the traitorous Kim Yong-sam clique this time, the commentary says it is easy to see why they invented and directed the case.

They seek in the faked-up case to make a one-party show in the upcoming "election" by diverting elsewhere the people's attention and dampening the flame of workers' struggle against Kim Yong-sam and "government" growing fiercer with each passing day after charging the hardcore labour unionists with "wirepulling labour movement", "having guerrilla-style mountain training" and "attempting to advance into the political circles", it says.

The Kim Yong-sam group should no longer play with such a clumsy drama which would bring nothing to them, but come out by themselves to the court of judgement of people before it is too late.

A signed commentary of MINJU CHOSON points out that the puppets are making use of this case to survive the crisis.

Daily Criticizes Japan's 'No-War Resolution'

SK1506052495 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436 GMT 15 Jun 95

["'No-War Resolution' Will Tarnish Japan's Image" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA) — The "no-war resolution" which was adopted at a plenary session of the House of Representatives of Japan upon the lapse of 50 years since the end of World War II has disappointed the Asian peoples and other peaceloving people over the world who want Japan to break with its past full of crimes in a clear-cut way and make a new starting, says NODONG SINMUN today.

The ambiguous "resolution" fails to properly admit and apologize for Japan's acts of aggression in the past and make a mention about compensation for its past crimes, the analyst says, and continues:

What is the keypoint in Japan's liquidation of the past is to apologize for its past crimes and, at the same time, properly compensate. Only then, can it be said that Japan liquidated its past and is it possible to make the people believe that Japan will not repeat its criminal history.

The "no-war resolution" cannot go down with our people, who suffered the greatest misfortunes and pains at the hands of the Japanese imperialists. Japan must honestly apologize and compensate for its aggression of Korea and crimes against it.

In a nutshell, Japan is trying to avoid its responsibility for its past crimes with a few general words. This is because Japan with a crime-woven history is pursuing a sinister purpose. Such a resolution is never acceptable to the world people.

The Japanese authorities' trick to cover up Japan's past crimes will only further tarnish its image.

Government, Mongolia Sign Agreement on Quarantine

SK1406103195 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1001 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA) — An agreement for cooperation in epizootic prevention and quarantine between the Governments of the DPRK and Mongolia was signed in Ulaanbaatar.

Present at the signing ceremony on the Korean side were a working delegation of the State Agricultural Commission and the Korean ambassador to Mongolia and, on the opposite side the minister and a vice-minister of food and agriculture and other officials concerned.

The agreement was endorsed by the head of the working delegation of the DPRK Agricultural Commission and the Mongolian vice-minister of food and agriculture.

Tanzanian Government Delegation Visits

Arrives 13 Jun

SK1306151895 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1510 GMT 13 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 13 (KCNA) — A government delegation of Tanzania headed by J. Rwegasira, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, arrived here today.

It was met at the airport by Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Yong-il, Vice-Chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Committee Kim Chong-u and other officials concerned.

Visits Kim Il-song Statue

SK1406052095 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0438 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA) — The visiting Tanzanian Government delegation led by Joseph Rwegasira, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, on Tuesday laid a floral basket before the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill here and made a bow.

Guards of honor of the Korean People's Army were standing before the statue.

Present on the occasion were Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and officials concerned, and Tanzanian Ambassador to Korea Seif Ali Eddy.

Meets With Kim Yong-nam

SK1406213495 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1505 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA) — Talks between the Government delegations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Tanzania were held today at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

Present at the talks on our side were Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Yong-il and other officials concerned and on the opposite side were members of the delegation led by Minister of Foreign Affairs and

International Cooperation J. Rwegasira and Tanzanian Ambassador to Korea Seif Ali Eddy.

At the talks both sides discussed the matter of further developing friendly relations between the two countries and the two peoples and other issues of mutual concern.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Gift From President to Kim Chong-il

SK1406213695 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a personal letter and a gift from Ali Hassan Mwinyi, president of the United Republic of Tanzania.

The personal letter and gift were handed to Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam today by Tanzanian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation J. Rwegasira on a visit to Korea.

Reception Held for Delegation

SK1506044195 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA) — The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea gave a reception in honor of the visiting Tanzanian Government delegation at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on Wednesday evening.

Speaking at the reception, Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier and minister of foreign affairs, said, "the Tanzanian people are now making a great progress in the efforts to achieve the national unity, harden the integration of the country and build a prosperous, new society under the correct leadership of his excellency respected President Ali Hassan Mwinyi."

He said:

Tanzania is striving to strengthen cooperation and solidarity with non-aligned and other developing countries and realize South- South cooperation on the principle of collective self-reliance. This is a good work which deserves our appreciation.

Referring to the decision on preserving the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in state, which was adopted on June 12 by the Korean party and state, Kim Yong-nam said: "This reflects the unanimous desire and will of the Korean people to live and work always in an integrated whole with him and it is an event of historical significance."

Speaking next, head of the delegation J. Rwegasira, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, conveyed the deepest condolences of President Ali Hassan Mwinyi and the entire people of Tanzania to the Korean people and the DPRK Government over the death of the respected great leader President Kim Il-song one year ago.

Saying that Tanzania was deeply interested in the joint efforts of the two peoples in the struggle for international peace, justice, independence, and self-determination, especially their cooperation in many fields including politics and economy, he said:

Tanzania will deepen relations with Korea in the course of realizing S-S cooperation.

Noting that the heroic people of the DPRK who have been under the tested leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and his excellency Kim Chong-il will greet the 50th anniversary of the defeat of the imperialist and colonialist forces, in August this year, the head of the delegation stressed: Tanzania warmly congratulates them on the anniversary and will join them in celebrating this historic day.

It is because the two countries have closest and beneficial relations created by the great leader President Kim Il-song and Mr. Julius K. Nyerere, former president of Tanzania and the father of the nation, he stressed.

Difficulties still lie in the way of realizing the desire of the Korean nation, he noted, adding that Tanzania hopes they would be overcome for the peaceful reunification and prosperity of the Korean peninsula.

Cuban Air Force Official Praises KPA

SK1406213195 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1502 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA) — The signal achievements made by the Korean people in all fields of socialist construction strike the world with admiration, Ruben Martinez Puente, vice-minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and air and anti-aircraft commander of Cuba who had visited Korea recently, said in an interview with a KCNA reporter.

The Korean people have made a great progress not only in socialist construction but also in strengthening the Armed Forces, he said, adding:

Today the Korean People's Army [KPA] has been prepared to be strong Armed Forces capable of defeating any aggression of imperialism.

It is a miracle that the KPA soldiers who took part in socialist construction, built the West Sea barrage in a short period of no more than five years, he said. This achievement, he stressed, can be made only by the KPA soldiers under the wise leadership of a great leader.

Victory and glory will be in store for the Korean people who are defending and adding lustre to socialism with the great idea and leadership, he said.

TV Reports Residents Moving to Rural Areas

SK1506111095

[FBIS Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports carried by Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean from 1 to 10 June on urban residents, including those from Pyongyang, "voluntarily venturing" to rural areas.

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 1 June carries a three-minute report in which the announcer reports: "Five teaching faculty members of Kim Il-song University who have the honor of high commendation given by the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il by voluntarily venturing to socialist rural areas departed for the rural areas amid warm applause of the employees."

The responsible secretary of the Kim Il-song University party committee states: "The five teaching faculty members and researchers proposed that they voluntarily venture to socialist rural areas. This is the true feature of the youths of our times who have been brought up receiving chuche education who are faithful to the party's call and are ready to go through fire and water to fill the demand of the revolution. The teaching faculty members and students are proud of this. The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il on 12 May received a report of their deed and sent them a benevolent handwritten letter stating: 'You are good comrades.'" Introducing the five teaching faculty members, the university's responsible party secretary states: "This is Comrade Kim Kwang-hwa, a talented scientist who graduated from our university and is working at the scientific test appliances laboratory as a researcher. He is venturing to Sinpo." The university's responsible party secretary notes that the second of the five venturers is going to Soha-ri, Onchon County; the third to Samjiyon; the fourth to Paemun-ri, Sepo County; and the fifth to Pungjong-ri, Chungsan County. The five venturers vow their loyalty to Kim Chong-il and vow to do what they can to help the rural areas increase agricultural production.

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 3 June carries a one-minute report in which the announcer reports: "While the beautiful communist virtues of voluntarily venturing to difficult and hard-working sectors are reported continuously, Pak Hung-chin, a section chief of the Higher Education Research Institute of the Education Committee and an associate doctor, and his family arrived amid warm applause at the Kumya Youth Coal Mine having made up their mind to work there." Pak Hung-chin states: "I will devote all my wisdom and talent to solving the most difficult problem of coal and uphold the great general with all my loyalty and filial dutifulness."

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 3 June carries a one-minute report in which the announcer reports: "With a resolve to uphold the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il by increasing production of food grain, cherishing deep in their hearts the great leader's behest; Comrades Yu Sok-sun, Choe Kyong-pok, Mun Su-chol, Kim Kyong-su, and Cho Yong-ku, who are functionaries of Sinchon County, South Hwanghae Province, voluntarily ventured to socialist rural areas." Choe Kyong-pok states that he and his family will venture to the rural area to devote themselves to increasing the production of rice to contribute to making the country richer and stronger.

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 3 June carries a one-minute report in which the announcer states: "Pak Un-suk and her sister Pak Un-sil who worked at Hyesan automobile service plant as lathe workers voluntarily ventured recently to Hakpo cooperative farm in Kilchu County. Well aware of the significance and importance of food grain production in implementing the party's revolutionary economic strategy, they departed for the cooperative farm with the ardent desire to give pleasure and contentment to the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il by settling in the socialist cooperative plain and achieving a bumper crop every year."

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 5 June carries a one-minute report in which the announcer reports: "With the burning desire to uphold the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il with rice by carrying out the farming work well, upholding the fatherly leader's behest, Yim Yong-chik, who worked as a teacher at Nampo Industrial College, voluntarily ventured to the socialist rural area with his family." Yim Yong- chik vows to uphold Kim Chong-il by increasing rice production.

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 7 June carries a one-minute report in which the announcer reports: "Comrade Yi Chol-ho, who was a teacher at the Social Science Department of Pyongyang Drama and Cinema College, voluntarily ventured to the general farm of Ongjin County with his family with a warm wish to effloresce more widely our party's grand rural construction plan." Yi Chol-ho states: "I am very glad. Our leader described us people as a very good people, and our comrade leader called us good comrades when we did only what we ought to do," and vows to increase production of rice to become loyalists upholding the party.

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 7 June carries an under-minute report in which the announcer reports: "Comrade Mun Song-yong, a member of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea who worked at the 15 April Children Paekhwawon, voluntarily ventured to Pochon-ri, Myongchon County," and notes his departure for the rural area amid applause of the employees of the Children Paekhwawon.

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 7 June carries a one-minute report in which the announcer reports: "Comrade Yun Yong-sok, who used to be a staff member of the Chorwon County party committee and who voluntarily ventured recently to Puam cooperative farm in Chorwon County, is now working as a cell secretary of No. 2 work team on the farm, endeavoring to bring up all the members of the work team more firmly to be the farm members boundlessly loyal to the party and the leader. He always leads the masses at their head by setting examples and showing by practice rather than by precept so that all the farm members may do the farming work efficiently as required by the chuche agricultural method." Yun Yong-sok states: "Until recently I worked at the Chorwon County party committee as a staff member, but I came to the agricultural front with my family and relatives to settle down here permanently in order to meet with the party's intent. I think this is the proper duty of a party functionary of our times. Nevertheless, the great general commended me calling me 'good comrade.'" Then he vows to become a loyalist and dutiful child to Kim Chong-il by increasing rice production.

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 10 June carries a two-minute report in which the announcer reports: "On the Yongsan cooperative farm in Kaepung County, the land of glory in which the great leader's immortal leadership achievement dwells, there are Comrades Kim Myong-hun, Yi Kwang-sok, Yi Ae-yong, and Yi Chong-ae who voluntarily ventured to this place in September and October last year while working at the Hyongjesan Export Knitwear Plant of Nungna General Bureau." The announcer adds: "The four youths are devoting all their energies and wisdom to the farm work with an enthusiastic desire to have the honor of the great general's visit to their farm by settling down permanently in the Yongsan plain and bringing forth a bumper crop again on the Yongsan plain upholding the fatherly leader's behest." Kim Myong-hun states: "I used to live in Pyongyang, and it has passed nearly a year since I began working on this farm voluntarily venturing to the land of Yongsan," and adds: "We, the new generation youths in the Yongsan plain, will devote ourselves to bringing forth a bumper crop to give pleasure and contentment to the respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il."

College Worker, Family Resettle

SK1506082395 Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean 1100 GMT 12 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Many of the youths and working people of our generation, who have grown in the broad bosom of love of the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il and received chuche education, continue to display the beautiful deed of volunteering to advance to socialist farms, upholding the party's intention. Comrade Chon Tong-sam, a worker at Pyongyang Medical College, and his family have decided to advance to Yanghwa-ri, Sinpo.

A few days ago, Comrade Chon Tong-sam and his family left for the farm reconfirming their loyal resolve to settle in the socialist farm forever and defend and further glorify the socialism of our own style by thoroughly implementing the great chuche farming method and achieving bumper crops every year.

Garment Worker, Family Move

SK1506083495 Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean 1100 GMT 12 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Comrade Yi Yong-chol, who worked at the cutting work shop of Pyongyang Changgwang Garment Plant, and his family volunteered to advance to Yoi-ri, Poptong County, Kangwon Province. Comrade Yi Yong-chol said that it is a revolutionary fighter's lofty faithfulness to implement to the end the loyal oath he took before the bier of the great leader. Currently, the party is calling us to go to the socialist farms and settle in the farms, and that devoting one's life in implementing the great rural theses is most honorable and rewarding.

Employees of the plant warmly sent off Comrade Yi Yong-chol and his family, who stood in the vanguard in strengthening socialist farms.

Pharmaceutical Researchers Relocate

SK1506104595 Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean 1100 GMT 13 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Upholding the far-seeing rural construction plan of the great leader and the dear leader, working people from various places are actively advancing to socialist farms. Comrade Son Tal-song, instructor of Korea Koryo Medicine Technology Center, and Comrade Kim Yong-kil, researcher of the center, volunteered to advance to socialist farms with their families.

[Begin Son recording] Advancing to the rural community upholding the party's call is a duty of the party members and working people. The great general gave great consideration to us. I will go out to the farm and work scientifically and technologically in accordance with the demand of the chuche farming method. I resolve to uphold the party with grain production and devote all my loyalty and filial piety to the great general. [end recording]

Prior to leaving Pyongyang with their families, Comrades Son Tal-song and Kim Yong-kil visited the great leader's statue on Mansudae hill. They laid flowers before the statue and confirmed their loyal oath.

Old Woman Praised for Providing Pork to Army

SK1506071695 Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean 1100 GMT 2 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Hwang Sam-nyo, an old woman residing in the people's neighborhood unit no. 49, Chungdang-tong, Hyongjesan- kuyok, Pyongyang city, is an oustanding old woman who has demonstrated the beautiful, laudable act of raising and sending 396 pigs to soldiers of the People's Army and major construction sites over the past 16 years. Despite her age, old woman Hwang Sam-nyo built 12 pigsties in her house where she raises more than 12 pigs with more than three tonnes of fodder and 100 kilograms of grass every day. The total amount of pork that she has produced amounts to more than 30 tonnes.

Old woman Hwang has visited units of the People's Army and construction sites on many occasions with the pigs that she raised. She has thus far received many certificates for her assistance work.

This is why soldiers of the People's Army, builders, and residents in the people's neighborhood unit to which old woman Hwang belongs praise her, and refer to her as grandmother of communism and our grandmother.

Power Plants Strive To Increase Production

SK1006055595 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 9 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Workers at various power plants under the Ministry of Power Industry, who unanimously rose to implement the party's revolutionary economic strategy by upholding the great leader's behest, have recently achieved a great success in power production by vigorously carrying out the struggle to provide electricity — even producing one more kilowatt of electricity — to the various sectors of the national economy. Reporter Chong Mun-chol from the central broadcasting station met with Kim Yong-tal, director of a department in the Ministry of Power Industry.

[Begin recording] [Chong] Workers of the various power plants under the Ministry of Power Industry have recently achieved great success by vigorously carrying out the struggle to further increase the energy production to be provided to the various sectors of the national economy. Can you tell us about this?

[Kim] Workers of Changjingang power plant, Kanggye youth power plant, general enterprise of Kaechon hydroelectric power plant, and Changjagang power plant are overfulfilling the daily production target by mobilizing and utilizing reserves to the maximum and by vigorously carrying out the struggle to normalize power production at a higher level. In particular, cherishing the faith that they can enhance the people's standard of living, and that they can thoroughly implement the party's revolutionary economic strategy only if power is produced and supplied sufficiently, workers of Changjingang power plant and Changjagang power plant should thoroughly establish a system of checks and repairs for the facilities and properly manage them, including [word indistinct] facility. As a result, they have normalized the power production at a level of over 110 percent by operating all power facilities at full capacity, compared to that of last year.

On many occasions, the great leader [suryong] gave us important teachings to significantly increase power production last year alone, saying that to thoroughly implement the party's revolutionary economic strategy, power plants should produce and provide electricity to the various sectors of the national economy, including agricultural light industry, in a timely manner.

As presented in the Party Central Committee's slogan, to unconditionally and endlessly complete the great leader's behest, functionaries have organized the organizational and guiding works for the low-echelon units by displaying a high sense of struggle. At the same time, they are respectively taking charge of the low-echelon unit, one by one, and are going down there to positively inspire revolutionary zeal and creativeness.

For the present, they have strived to increase more power production. Also, they have organized the work to satisfactorily provide power to the major plants and enterprises in compliance with the demand of the party's revolutionary economic strategy, while fully guaranteeing the irrigation [word indistinct] electricity to be used in the agricultural sector for the present time. [end recording]

Power Production Increasing 'Steadily'

SK1006101595 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 10 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 10 (KCNA) — Hydroelectric power plants in different parts of the country are steadily increasing the production of electricity in hearty response to the calls of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea issued to greet its 50th foundation anniversary.

In the latest one month they boosted the production 13 percent as against the previous month.

In the days the Hochongang Power Station has overfulfilled its daily assignments by more than five percent by realising rational load distribution with computers.

The Changjingang Power Station has topped its daily quotas by hundreds of thousands kWh [kilowatt hours].

In the same period the Changjagang Power Station and the United Taechon Hydroelectric Power Station have increased the production respectively 94 percent and 41 percent. They are keeping the production at a high rate.

Taedonggang Power Plant Increases Production

SK1206133295 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 12 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The power generating workers of the Taedonggang Hydroelectric Complex, who are accelerating their vigorous onward march toward the grand festival of October, have overfulfilled by 104 percent the plan of the first half of the year, doing so more than 20 days ahead of schedule.

During the period of fulfillment of the plan, the power generating workers of the complex increased production with a small amount of water, taking meticulous care of the modern facilities and keeping deep in their hearts the importance of the duty assigned them in implementing the revolutionary economic strategy.

The operators at the power generating workshop increased per-hour electricity generation by intensifying the system of (?self-reliance in securing water.) The workers at the structure workshop also actively contributed to increasing production by taking care of the structure as befitting the masters.

Changjingang Power Plant Increases Production

SK1306131295 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0100 GMT 13 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The electricity generating workers of the Changjingang Power Plant are generating about 260,000 kwh [kilowatt hours] electricity more than their daily plans by waging a vigorous struggle to increase electricity generation.

The electricity generating workers, who are filled with the burning determination to give pleasure to the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il with success in increased electricity generation, are operating the power generating equipment at full capacity.

In particular, the electricity generating workers at the Nos. 1 and 2 power generating workshops are achieving innovations in overfulfilling the highly-set daily plans by more than 110 percent by highly displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude.

Power Plant Workers Boost Electricity Output

SK1506020095 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Electric power producers at the 17 March Hydroelectric Power Plant who have received the decision to preserve the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in eternal state with great emotion are effecting an upsurge in electric power production.

Electric power producers at this plant who are operating all generation facilities at full capacity, cherishing in their hearts the party Central Committee's slogans calling for increasing to the maximum electric power production by operating all generation facilities at full capacity, are fulfilling their daily production quota by three to five percent.

In particular, electric power producers at No. 3 generation workshop and Puryong generation workshop are increasing their daily quota by more than five percent by properly planning and coordinating facility and water management and, thus, by operating generators at a high degree of efficiency.

Electric producers at the No. 1 and 2 generation workshops, too, are producing much electric power every day by operating all facilites at full capacity through the active introduction of a reasonable work method.

Premier Expresses Sympathy on Norwegian Flood

SK1506043795 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA) — Premier of the Administration Council Kang Song-san sent a telegram of sympathy to Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland over the fact that an unprecedented flood hit her country, causing big human losses and damages.

In the telegram Kang Song-san hoped that the royal government of Norway would heal the flood damages and stabilize the livelihood of inhabitants of the affected areas as soon as possible.

Foreign Media on Kim Chong-il Chongnyon Letter

SK1406104095 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 14 Jun 95

[Spellings of newspaper names as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's letter "On Developing the Movement of Koreans in Japan Onto a New Higher Stage" sent to the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan and compatriots in Japan on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of its formation was carried by the Nepalese papers CHALPAL AND PRAKAS, the Yemeni paper SAUT AL YEMEN, the Pakistani paper NIDAE WAQT, the Indian paper SAMACHAR POST, the Tanzanian paper UHURU and the Togolese paper LA TRIBUNE.

The letter was also reported by Radio Culed of Mali.

Kim Chong-il Letter Studied Abroad

SK1506102995 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA) — The letter of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il "On developing the movement of Koreans in Japan onto a new higher stage" addressed to the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and compatriots in Japan on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of its formation was studied in different countries.

A seminar on the letter was held by the group for the study of Kimchongilism of the AmerIndian Action Movement of Guyana on June 1.

Leader of the AmerIndian Action Movement Peter Persaud in his speech said that Chongnyon could develop into a dignified and mighty organisation as it is today thanks to the immortal chuche idea founded by respected President Kim Il-song.

He stressed that the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is wisely leading the work of strengthening Chongnyon and its activities and that Chongnyon under his leadership would achieve a greater victory in all aspects.

A seminar on the letter was sponsored by the Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, group for the study of the chuche idea.

Reading sessions were held by the Malagasy National Committee for the Study of the Chuche Idea, the Zimbabwean Society for the Study of Works of Kim Chong-il, the Bulgarian group for the study of the chuche idea and the youth of the Togolese People's Rally.

Kim Chong-il Thanks Units for Aid to Army

SK1506055895 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0457 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il extended thanks to the Ministry of Marine Transport, the Kumgang General Bureau, Huichon City of Chagang Province, the Hoechang County Commercial Management Office, South Pyongan Province and the Hamhung plastic eraser factory for their active contribution in strengthening the combat power of the People's Army with sincere aid to the People's Army soldiers.

With a view to bringing into full bloom the traits of army-people unity throughout society, officials and employees of the units took warm care of the soldiers in combat and political training.

Kim Chong-il Thanks Workers at Computer Center

SK1406104295 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a letter of thanks "Computerization is a high stage of technical revolution" to the workers of the Pyongyang Informatics Centre.

The letter said that the workers of the Pyongyang Informatics Centre developed the three-dimension design programme and two-dimension design programme in a little more than one year, solving difficult and complicated scientific and technical problems by their own efforts and wisdom with a high awareness of their revolutionary duty. By doing so, they opened up a bright vista for computerising designing at the Paektusan Architectual Academy, it added.

In the letter, Comrade Kim Chong-il highly estimated the workers of the centre for their successful fulfillment of their revolutionary duty assigned by the party and their positive contribution to the development of the country's programme technology and to the technical revolution with revolutionary enthusiasm and creative ingenuity and extended warm thanks to all the workers of the centre.

It laid stress on the need to hasten the computerisation of the national economy on the basis of the successes and experience already gained and putting it on an advanced level at an early date. It further said:

We should realise the computerisation by strictly subordinating it to promoting the chuche-orientation, modernisation and scientification of the national economy and to providing the working people with an independent and creative labour life.

The scientists and technicians should develop chuche-based programme technology by using such programme research and development centres as the Korean Computer Centre and the Pyongyang Informatics Centre and develop and introduce many high-quality programmes which are easy to use in keeping with the increasing demand.

The letter stressed the need to further consolidate the technical foundation of the electronics and automation industries, make an effective use of conditions and possibilities of this domain, improve the quality of electronic elements and materials, increase the rate of self-sufficiency and gradually turn out many computers of various forms.

The workers should build up-to-date computer industry and programme industry in accordance with the plan of the nation's scientific and technical development and conduct this work in a far-reaching way so that a large-scale computer network may be laid, the letter said.

I am firmly confident that scientists and technicians engaged in the domain of computer should bear deep in their mind the trust and expectation of the party, develop the computer technology of the country and register greater success in the work to realise the computerisation of the national economy, the letter stressed.

PRC, Japanese Groups Visit Kim Il-song Statue

SK1506043295 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0410 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA) — A friendship delegation of the Jiangsu Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China headed by Li Mingzhao, secretary of the Political Law Committee, a delegation of Chinese External Cultural Relations officials and a Chinese Economic Daily delegation visited the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill on Wednesday to pay homage to him.

They laid bunches of flowers before the statue and made a bow with reverence for President Kim Il-song who devoted all his life to the cause of global independence.

Earlier, on Tuesday a Japan-Korea friendship delegation of Aichi prefectural assemblymen of Japan called with a bouquet at the statue to pay homage to President Kim Il-song.

Wreaths Laid at Bust of Kim Chol-chu

SK1506043495 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0414 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA) — Working people and People's Army soldiers laid wreaths before the bust of Comrade Kim Chol-chu, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, in the Revolutionary Martyrs' Cemetery on Mt. Taesong in the suburbs of Pyongyang on Wednesday in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of his death.

Placed before the bust was a wreath sent by the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission and Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army.

Wreaths in the names of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the ministry of the People's Armed Forces, the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, Kim Chol-chu University of Education and other units were laid before the bust.

Written on ribbons hanging from the wreaths were letters "in memory of Comrade Kim Chol-chu, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter".

The visitors to the bust paid a silent tribute to the memory of Comrade Kim Chol-chu, recalling with deep emotion the brilliant revolutionary life and immortal exploits of him who devoted his all to the sacred cause of the country's liberation and the people's freedom and liberation.

Zimbabwe Groups Mark Kim Il-song's Death

SK1406051895 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0442 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA) — A joint meeting of the Zimbabwe-Korea Solidarity and Friendship Association, the Zimbabwean National Committee for the Study of the Chuche Idea and the Harare Provincial Committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front was held on the occasion of the first anniversary of the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The meeting was addressed by assemblyman N.T. Mawema, chairman of the Zimbabwean National Committee for the Study of the Chuche Idea and member of the Central Commitee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front.

Noting that although President Kim Il-song passed away he would forever be with humankind, the speaker proposed to set a memorial month around July 8, the first anniversary of his death and form an organizing committee of memorial service.

With the unanimous approval of participants the meeting formed the organizing committee of memorial service on the first anniversary of his death and set a memorial month between June 20 and July 20.

N.T. Mawema was elected chairman of the organizing committee.

The meeting decided to hold a memorial service, a seminar and a lecture to follow the outstanding ideological and theoretical activities, leadership exploits and noble popular traits of President Kim Il-song, a Korean film show and a photo exhibition during the memorial month.

Jiangsu Friendship Group Arrives 14 Jun

*SK1406213295 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1503 GMT 14 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA) — A friendship delegation of the Jiangsu Provincial commmittee of the Communist Party of China headed by Secretary of the Political Law Committee Li Mingzhao arrived here today.

South Korea

French Resumption of Nuclear Tests Criticized

*SK1406114995 Seoul YONHAP in English
1142 GMT 14 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP) — The South Korean Government on Wednesday expressed regret over the recent decision of the French Government to resume nuclear test.

In a statement, Yu Kwang-sok, Foreign Ministry spokesman, said his government regrets the French decision especially because it came at a time when the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty has been extended indefinitely and a proposed agreement on total ban on nuclear tests is being discussed actively.

The statement urged all nuclear countries to refrain from conducting nuclear tests and instead join efforts to bring about nuclear disarmament.

KEDO Meeting Urged for New York in June

*SK1506065495 Seoul MUNHWA ILBO in Korean
15 Jun 95 p 2*

[FBIS Translated Text] Following the conclusion of North Korea-U.S. negotiations on the reactor issue, the government has decided to promote holding a general meeting of Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization [KEDO] in New York toward the end of June, so as to hasten the signing of a light-water reactor supply agreement and the heavy oil supply to North Korea. On 15 June, a government authority said: "Because KEDO is in charge of future negotiations with North Korea according to the Kuala Lumpur agreement, it must solve the problem regarding sharing financial burdens to countries concerned as soon as possible for the heavy oil supply to North Korea and the light-water reactor construction." The authority then added: "Our government is now talking with the United States and Japan about holding a KEDO general meeting at the earliest possible date."

It has been learned that, besides the executive members of the KEDO Board of Governors—the ROK, the United States, and Japan—17 to 18 more countries which expressed their willingness to participate in KEDO, including Britain, France, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirate, Kuwait, Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, and Brunei, will attend the upcoming KEDO general meeting.

The government will form a KEDO Secretariat and put KEDO into full operation prior to the general meeting. Formation of the KEDO Secretariat is possible with the assent of the three executive members of the Board of Governors. The United States' Stephen Bosworth, head of the U.S.-Japan Fund, has tentatively been appointed KEDO secretary general; and the ROK's Choe Yong-chin, former director of the Foreign Ministry International Economy Bureau, and Japan's Itaru Umezu, councillor for international cooperation at the Foreign Ministry, have tentatively been appointed deputy secretary generals.

NUB Spokesman on DPRK Reactor Construction

*SK1506035595 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network
in Korean 0314 GMT 15 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Kim Kyong-ung, spokesman for the National Unification Board [NUB], said today that it is difficult to visibly accomplish work regarding the light-water reactor construction project in a short period of time.

Spokesman Kim stated: For a prompt implementation of the light-water reactor construction, it is necessary to hold separate discussions with North Korea on the schedule, procedures, and the site of the reactor construction. In reality, however, it appears likely that it will be difficult to embark on specific work before the end of June.

Spokesman Kim also stated: The Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization [KEDO] will play the role as a channel for separate discussions with North Korea on the schedule and procedures of this project. Accordingly, full-fledged construction of light-water reactors will become concrete following discussions between North Korea and KEDO.

Daily Provides Details of 'Korean-Type Reactor'

SK1506023195 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 15 Jun 95 p 8

[By staff reporter Chae Hui-muk: "What Is Korean-Type Reactor"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ulchin nuclear units No. 3 and No. 4, the reference for the construction of the power plants in North Korea, are the first Korean standard nuclear power plant.

Basically, the 1 million kilowatt reactor at these plants is an improved version of the 1.3 million kilowatt Palo Verde plant model developed by ABB-CE (Combustion Engineering) of the United States.

But the Ulchin nuclear project has been carried out by Korean engineers and scientists from design through manufacture to engineering. A KEPCO (Korea Electric Power Corp.) official said some 95 percent of the technology is Korean.

The localization of the technological work on the Ulchin plant was based on the experience gained on nuclear unit No. 3 in Yonggwang, Cholla-namdo, which was put into operation early this year and unit No. 4 there now under construction. It incorporates basic improvements in some 100 sectors of the Palo Verde reactor design as well as in capability and safety.

Korea has been evaluated highly for its nuclear power plant technology internationally and the Ulchin plant is recognized as world class.

The KEPCO, the Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute (KAERI) and other institutes have standardized or improved parts of the Palo Verde reactor and developed a 1 million kilowatt reactor suitable to the Korean situation, having fully digested ABB-CE's technology.

Under the general management of KEPCO, the Korea Power Engineering Co. is responsible for the general design of the plant with a few parts subcontracted with the U.S. firm, Sargent & Lundy.

The Korea Heavy Industries and Construction Co. (KHIC) is the manufacturer and supplier of the nuclear reactors, turbines, generators and other key equipment. ABB-CE is participating in the manufacture of reactors as a subcontractor to the KHIC in a small area and General Electric has a little responsibility in the manufacture of turbines and generators.

Korea Nuclear Fuel Co. is participating in the project as nuclear fuel supplier and KAERI is designing reactors and nuclear fuel with some work subcontracted with CE.

South Korea will be able to support the construction in the North without payment of royalties to foreign firms such as CE and the North will be able to rely on assistance from the South in terms of management, maintenance and operation without the need for anyone else's help.

The two units in Ulchin will cost 3,345.9 billion won based on 1999 prices — of which 2,746.4 billion won will come from domestic financial sources and $788 million from foreign loans — and will need some 10 million workers in total with some 7,000 working on the job at one time at its peak.

N-S Agreement Reported on Private Rice Aid

SK1506061395 Seoul MUNHWA ILBO in Korean 15 Jun 95 p 2

[Report by Yi Pyong-ho]

[FBIS Translated Text] It was learned on 15 June that, accepting North Korea's request, the government decided to provide North Korea with civilian-level grain support first.

According to a diplomatic source in Seoul, finding it difficult to actually abide by the "principle of supplying ROK rice first" in a situation where Japan continues to promote civilian-based grain support to North Korea, despite the ROK Government's repeated demands that Japan show restraint on this issue, the government has decided to provide rice to North Korea at a civilian level and later develop this into cooperative relations between the South and North Korean authorities.

With this policy, the government sent a high-level authority to Beijing last week to contact North Korea there. In Beijing, the sides agreed in principle on the ROK's civilian-level rice support. The government will announce its decision this weekend or some time next week, as soon as it obtains the president's approval.

It has yet to be confirmed, however, what civilian organization will be in charge of contacts with North Korea and how much rice will be provided. Regarding this, Japan's SANKEI SHIMBUN reported on 13 June that if possible, the Japanese coalition cabinet will ship rice to North Korea from Yokohama port on 20 June, despite the ROK Government's opposition.

Government To Approve More Investment in North

SK1506064395 Seoul YONHAP in English
0547 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP) — Na Ung-pae, deputy prime minister and concurrently national unification minister, said on Thursday that the government plans to allow increased investment in North Korea with a view to expanding inter-Korean processing-on-commission trade.

Making a speech at a breakfast meeting of the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI), Na said, "inter-Korean economic exchanges and cooperation are absolutely necessary from a long-term point of view, although it may be difficult."

He cited daily necessities manufacturing and garment as the fields where South Korea is intent on investing in the initial stage.

"But, investment related to North Korea's infrastructure will be considered after watching developments in inter-Korean relations and government-level dialogues," he said.

His remarks came just two days after North Korea and the United States reached an agreement in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, concerning the supply of light-water nuclear reactors to North Korea.

"Once inter-Korean exchanges of personnel and materials have been expanded in the course of building light-water reactors in North Korea," he observed, "it would not be easy for North Korea to minimize the influence of South Korea."

He added that North Korea's economic dependence on the South would increase since North Korea has to rely on South Korea to train technicians to operate the reactors.

Na said, "once a reactor supply contract is concluded, an inter-Korean dialogue will be inevitable and inter-Korean economic cooperation will make rapid progress."

Insurance Firms Seek Business in North Korea

SK1506075395 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 15 Jun 95 p 7

[Report by So Yang-won]

[FBIS Translated Text] It has been learned that at a time when people's interest in North-South economic cooperation is increasing in the wake of the settlement of the North Korean-U.S. negotiations on the light-water reactors issue, Samsung Fire Insurance Company recently submitted a request to the National Unification Board for contact with North Korea. The company is negotiating with the North Korean side through a middleman from Chongnyon [General Association of Koreans Residing in Japan] in a bid to establish branch offices in North Korea.

According to a source in the insurance field on 14 June, the Tokyo office of Samsung Insurance Company recently contacted officials of Kumgang Insurance Company, which is operated in Tokyo by Chongnyon, and discussed the status of the North Korean insurance market and ways to cooperate with the General Bureau of International Insurance (director: Yi Myong-hui, former North Korean ambassador to Somalia), an organization under North Korea's Administration Council.

North Korea — which is now promoting the establishment of "an export-related insurance company" as part of its program to develop the Najin-Sonbong free economic and trade zone — has shown an affirmative attitude toward the efforts of foreign insurance companies, including ROK insurance companies, to advance into North Korea.

In this regard, a government official stated that "the advance of our insurance business firms into North Korea will contribute to invigorating North-South economic and trade cooperation and may entail a considerable risk," adding that "no report has been received yet from the Samsung Fire Insurance Company on the result of its contacts with North Korean insurance officials."

The government, in its measures to invigorate North-South economic cooperation released last November, declared that it would allow South Korean insurance companies to establish their offices in North Korea. Therefore, it is likely that Samsung Fire Insurance Company's request to establish an office in the Najin-Sonbong area, when submitted, will be approved by the government without any difficulty.

Earlier, Daehan Fire Insurance Company attempted to make inroads into North Korea in 1992. LG Fire Insurance Company and the First Fire Insurance Company, as well, consulted with the National Unification Board in the past to sound out the possibility of establishing offices in North Korea.

KEPCO on DPRK Power Generation Capacity

SK1506035695 Seoul YONHAP in English
0232 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP) — North Korea's power generation capacity has remained stagnant over the past several years, the Korea Electric Power Corp. (KEPCO) said Thursday.

The capacity increased by only 198,000 kilowatts from 6,902,000 kw in 1988 to 7,100,000 kw in 1993, whereas it hiked by no less than 992,000 kw between 1984-88.

The nominal increases in the North's power generation capacity is attributed to Pyongyang's financial pinch which does not allow for the huge investments that are required to construct power plants.

In particular, no additional thermal power generation facilities had been established between 1988-93, KEPCO said.

A KEPCO official said that about 54 percent of the North's electric power comes from hydraulic power plants, with the remainder coming from thermal plants. This indicates an unstable supply situation in power generation for the North, the source added.

Due to power shortages, North Korea now suspends its supply of power to households and office buildings for one to three hours a day during winter, according to the source.

Red Cross Urges Release of Crew Seized by North

SK1506090795 Seoul YONHAP in English 0845 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP) — The Korea National Red Cross (KNRC) has again called on its North Korean counterpart again to actively cooperate for an early release of the eight fishermen of the South Korean trawler, Usong-ho No. 86, seized by a North Korean patrol boat on May 30.

In a statement issued Thursday, Kang Yong-hun, president of the KNRC, asked the North Korean Red Cross to provide for an immediate return of the seized trawler and crewmen from a humanitarian viewpoint, noting that "the civilian fishing boat had just gone in the wrong direction due to navigational errors."

He also requested the North inform South Korea of the identities of casualties, if there were any as a result of the North Korean soldiers' firing at the fishing boat during the seizure.

Meanwhile, the North failed to respond to South Korea's proposal that liaison officials from the two sides meet and discuss the issue at 10 AM Thursday at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom.

DPRK Rejects Red Cross Contact

SK1506023895 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0210 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The contact between liaison officials of the North and South Red Cross societies to discuss the issue of repatriation of crewmen of Usongho, which was hijacked by North Korea, was not realized due to the North Korean side's refusal.

As it proposed to North Korea on 13 June in a radio message through KBS, the ROK National Red Cross Society wanted to hold a contact of liaison officials at Panmunjom this morning to hand over personnel information regarding the kidnapped crewmen and a letter of appeal from their families calling for the crew's repatriation. However, the contact was not realized due to North side's refusal.

Accordingly, Kang Yong-hun, president of the ROK National Red Cross, again urged in a statement, positive cooperation of the North Korean Red Cross for repatriation of the eight crewmen of the Usongho.

In addition, Red Cross President Kang availed to the public, personnel materials proving that the crewmen of Usongho are purely civilians, as well as a letter of appeal by their families.

University President: North Behind Labor Unrest

SK1406115095 Seoul YONHAP in English 1055 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chunchon, June 14 (YONHAP) — Pak Hong, president of Sogang University, claimed here Wednesday the recent taking of shelter by Korea Telecom Union leaders at religious precincts was engineered by North Korea.

"The North Korean communists have infiltrated deep into the student, labor, dissidents and press circles of the South, controlling their activities behind the scene," Pak said.

Pak made the assertion in a speech at a Hallim University seminar. Last year he caused quite a stir by saying pro-chuche-thought student activists are under the control of North Korea.

Saying he has information on the route through which North Korea obtains various information on South Korea, Pak said North Korea seeks to agitate a general strike in the South before the local elections of June 27 and perpetrate a major sabotage on Aug. 15.

"The number of pro-chuche students declined from last year but they have infiltrated into various circles more deeply than ever to lead various strikes," Pak said.

According to Pak, up to 90 percent of all college student council presidents across the country are pro-chuche Chusapa students.

"North Korean elements have permeated into the South so widely in this age of information that they know which families take rice meals and which families eat barley," Pak said.

Tension Rising Between Government, Labor Unions

*SK1506081195 Seoul YONHAP in English
0737 GMT 15 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP) — Tension is rising between the government and labor unions as the unions of several public corporations are moving to strike early next week, while the prosecution stated that it will strongly deal with strikers.

Minnojun, the preparatory committee for the Federation of Democratic Trade Unions, said Thursday that it instructed the trade unions under its control that have already officially reported the outbreak of labor disputes, to begin striking next week if they fail to get collective agreements concluded by this weekend.

Minnojun also told the trade unions of several public service organizations like the subway corp. and hospitals to boycott the labor committee's arbitration and go on strike outright, an act which would be illegal.

Under law, labor and management of public utilities should follow arbitration regulations provided for by the Central Labor Committee, which Minnojun suspects are devised to make it practically impossible for unionists at public service businesses take extreme industrial actions.

The prosecution, however, decided Thursday that if the trade unions of the public service businesses strike, it will punish the leaders of the illegal strikes according to the law.

In particular, the Seoul prosecution is investigating Minnojun's decision to instruct unions to go on combined strikes next week, and trying to arrest Kwon Yong-kil, co-chairman of Minnojun in order to serve an arrest warrant on him.

A prosecution official said that Minnojun seems to be making an attempt to influence the local elections slated for June 27, by pushing for the strikes, and that the prosecution will focus on blocking those "tactical moves."

Meanwhile, Minnojun leaders said that the unions which are most likely to go on strike next week include the unions of the Seoul Metropolitan Subway Corp., Seoul National University Hospital, Hanyang University Hospital, Ewha Womans University Hospital, the Hyundai Business Group and some automobile manufacturing companies including Kia Motor Corp.

Hyundai Industries Reaches Wage Settlement

*SK1506112795 Seoul YONHAP in English
1040 GMT 15 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ulsan, June 15 (YONHAP) — The labor and management of Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. here reached an tentative agreement on the year's wage increase plan Thursday.

If the plan were approved by unionists, it would be the first wage settlement without labor dispute since a labor union came into being at the giant Hyundai shipyard in 1987.

In a seven-hour marathon negotiation, company President Kim Chong-kuk and union Chairman Yun Chae-kon agreed on a package wage plan featuring a 7.7 percent wage hike, monthly safety-health expense of 25,000 won and a special allowance of 310 percent if no labor disputes were initiated.

The two sides also agreed to discuss the issue of whether to reinstate dismissed union leaders two weeks after wage settlement.

The '95 wage plan will be referred to unionists' vote at 8 AM Friday.

Kim Tae-chung Discusses Security Law, Food Aid

*SK1506021195 Seoul YONHAP in English
0124 GMT 15 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP) — Former opposition leader Kim Tae-chung on Wednesday called for the national security law to be abolished, saying South Korea would not suffer without the law.

While meeting reporters, Kim, chairman of the Asia-Pacific Peace Foundation which he founded in 1993 after his retirement from politics in the wake of his defeat in the 1992 presidential election, remarked, "there is no such law in other democratic countries, and I think our country is not so vulnerable as we need the national security law."

Commenting on food aid to North Korea, he criticized the government for not allowing religious organizations to provide grain to the North.

"When a religious society offers to provide the North with food aid the government should approve. I can't understand why the government balks at such plans.

"Even the government of the Fifth Republic did not attach conditions to the supply of rice to the North, and it is beyond my understanding why the government balks at World Vision's plan to provide badly needed food to the North."

Regarding the police raid of the Myongdong Cathedral to end a sit-in staged by Korea Telecom's Union leaders, Kim, who registered as a campaign speaker to support opposition Democratic Party candidates in the upcoming local elections, claimed, "morals come before law and law must be enforced as a last resort, but the government sent police into the Cathedral. And now the government calls for a dialogue (between labor and management in Korea Telecom). This kind of approach is wrong."

Touching on the U.S.-North Korea light-water reactor agreement reached in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, earlier this week, Kim said, "with the settlement of North Korea's nuclear issue, the cold war has gone (from the Korean peninsula). I think the light-water reactor agreement is acceptable, both in name and reality, and the government should maintain close cooperation with the United States and Japan in resuming the suspended inter-Korean dialogue. "

'Electioneering' Criticized

*SK1506081795 Seoul YONHAP in English
0758 GMT 15 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP) — Former opposition leader Kim Tae-chung's electioneering and alleged "virtual" return to politics are emerging as an issue of great contention between the ruling and opposition parties in the upcoming June 27 local elections.

Kim Tae-chung on Thursday made a public speech at the main opposition Democratic Party's stumping rallies in Kyonggi Province and thereby resumed his political activities amid bitter rebukes of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP].

DLP Chairman Yi Chun-ku, at a party rally in Puchon, Kyonggi Province, on Thursday made a direct attack on Kim Tae-chung, saying, "Opposition leaders are already engaged in national power contests, inciting ruinous sentiments of regionalism and scheming national division, and thereby committing a crime.

"A person who has already been judged by the people three times, and a person who himself promised to retire from politics is now employing artifices in the local elections," Yi added. "Those who are intent on fulfilling their selfish desires are instigating the citizens."

Kim Tae-chung, chairman of the Peace Foundation for the Asia-Pacific region, spoke Thursday at a number of stumping meetings in Anyang, Inchon and Pupyong, all in Kyonggi Province, calling the upcoming local elections "an interim vote of confidence" in President Kim Yong-sam's administration.

"In the past 34 years, a handful of privileged people have presided over the entire population and lived in splendor, taking advantage of the simple love of hometowns on the part of people hailing from their region," Kim asserted. "Through the forthcoming elections we have to realize equal rights among regions so that all the citizens may share prosperity."

Defending his speechmaking tour, Kim said, "The government and the ruling party are disturbing the election atmosphere, and the opposition party is in serious trouble, allowing for no optimism. I've come forward as a party campaign speaker to keep the promise I made in retiring from politics that I'll support the development of the opposition party as an ordinary party member."

Kim Yong-sam Visits Armed Forces Units

*SK1506063795 Seoul YONHAP in English
0501 GMT 15 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP) — President Kim Yong-sam made visits to units of the Army, Air Force and Marine Corps Thursday to encourage servicemen to maintain high standards during their training and security duties.

Visiting an Army unit at the central frontlines early in the morning, the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces jogged with officers and men for about 20 minutes and ate breakfast in the enlisted men's dining hall.

He told the enlisted men that the Korean war was "a war that defended the freedom and peace of the country," adding, "we are indebted to those who fought, especially to those who fell, in the war for the freedom and prosperity we enjoy today."

Kim then exhorted the soldiers to do their utmost to fulfill their national defense duty, following the spirit of sacrifice displayed by their seniors.

The supreme commander of the Armed Forces also paid a visit to houses of noncommissioned officers and inquired about their children's education.

In addition, he visited the unit's training grounds to observe soldiers undergoing tactical and other training programs.

After the Army unit, the president visited a fighter wing of the Air Force to observe a pilot scrambling exercise.

Kim also visited the new Marine Corps headquarters relocated to a site in southern Kyonggi Province and ate lunch with officers at their headquarters.

Prosecution Investigating Missing Banknotes

SK1506071595 Seoul YONHAP in English 0640 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yongdong, North Chungchong Province, June 15 (YONHAP) — The district prosecution here failed to find any clues related to the whereabouts of the new banknotes which were reported missing after being printed at the Okchon mint of the Korea Security Printing and Minting Corp. during the interrogations of four employees from the mint's printing shop Thursday.

The prosecution also queried a certain Om, 37, a member of the mint's inspections division, about his stay in a prayer house near the mint since last Friday when the case surfaced, but failed to ascertain any information related to the case because of his incoherent replies. Moreover, he showed signs of neurosis.

Accordingly, the prosecution will summon some 10 other mint employees for questioning shortly, as the prosecution found that the printing shop which is designated as a restricted area to ordinary employees had been frequently visited by these employees.

The prosecution also found that the mint's management, ignoring the mandatory daily inventory check of newly-printed banknotes, checked the inventory for the first time in a week last Friday when it discovered that 1,000 newly printed 1,000-won bills were missing from its inventory.

Inspection of Mints Launched

SK1506020695 Seoul YONHAP in English 0040 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP) — The government, prompted by the recent reports that monetary bills are missing from a mint, has decided to conduct a comprehensive, special inspection of the Okchon Mint in North Chungchong Province and the Kyongsan Mint in North Kyongsang Province.

One thousand sheets of newly printed 1,000-won bills, worth a total of 1 million won, have recently been found to be missing from the Okchon Mint of the Korea Securities Printing and Minting Corp.

Assistant Minister for Financial Policy Kim Yong-sop said Thursday, "We will conduct a thorough, special inspection of the Okchon and Kyongsan Mints for the purpose of developing ways to prevent bill pilfering from recurring."

The prosecution's investigation of the incident, launched Wednesday, should disclose how and when the incident took place, Kim opined and added, "the special inspection of the government mints will be conducted based on the outcome of the prosecution's investigation."

In the past, there have been some reports that one or two sheets of bank-notes were missing from a mint, but they had been found later.

The Okchon Mint prints 1,000-won bills only, while the Kyongsan Mint turns out 5,000-won and 10,000-won bills.

In the meantime, the government on Wednesday replaced O Se-min, president of the Korea Security Printing and Mint Corp. with Min Tae-hyong, president of the Consumer Protection Board.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Badawi Takes Up DPRK Nuclear Issues

Announces Funding Aid

BK1306144095 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1200 GMT 13 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said that Malaysia has offered to contribute 300,000 U.S. dollars [figure as heard] to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization to help fund fuel supplies.

He said that the aid is to enable North Korea to begin operations at the new reactor.

[Begin Abdullah recording] This is a positive step toward generating power for North Korean use, and to settle the nuclear-related issue. We know that this long-standing issue has been the cause of tension and conflict among North Korea, South Korea, the United States and several other countries. With the agreement signed in Kuala Lumpur, today we can hope that peace and stability will be restored to the region. [end recording]

Briefed by DPRK Minister

BK1406090295 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Kim Kye-kwan today called on Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi. Kim led the North Korean delegation to the nuclear talks with the United States in Kuala Lumpur. He briefed Datuk Abdullah on the outcome of the talks. North Korean Embassy official (Choi Song-ho) said Kim is expected to leave for the Chinese capital Beijing tomorrow en route home.

The three-week North Korea-U.S. talks, which began on 20 May, concluded with an announcement yesterday that an agreement had been reached over the light-water reactor issue. The U.S. side was led by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and the Pacific Thomas Hubbard. Hubbard met Datuk Abdullah last night and thanked Malaysia for hosting the talks.

Kimma Party Withdraws From Opposition Movement

BK1506070295 Kuala Lumpur THE STAR in English 15 Jun 95 p 1

[Report by Shamsul Akmar]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kuala Lumpur — The Malaysian Indian Muslim Congress (Kimma) has pulled out of Gagasan Rakyat [People's Movement], a move likely to spell the end of the opposition front.

The front, set up just before the 1990 election, is now left with only Parti Melayu's Semangat 46 [Spirit of 46 Malay Party] and Parti Rakyat Malaysia [Malaysian People's Party — PRM].

Semangat information chief Ahmad Shabery Chik said his party which advocated the formation of the opposition front felt that it was time to review "Gagasan's relevance in Malaysian politics."

"It is time to think of an alternative opposition front since Gagasan seems to be heading towards a slow but sure death," he said.

Gagasan originally comprised Semangat, PRM, the DAP [Democratic Action Party], the All-Indian Progressive Front (IPF) and Kimma. Parti Bersatu Sabah [Sabah United Party] had then indicated interest in joining but decided otherwise after the 1990 election.

A few weeks before the April general election, the DAP and the IPF withdrew from the front, the DAP going on its own and the IPF throwing its lot behind Barisan Nasional [National Front].

Shabery said Kimma's withdrawal from Gagasan was relayed to Semangat yesterday.

Kimma, one of the smallest Gagasan members, made the decision to pull out at its supreme council meeting on Monday [12 June] and pledged support for Barisan Nasional.

"We respect Kimma's decision because it expected to play a vital role in Malaysian politics through Gagasan," said Shabery. "However, being a small party, Kimma has its limitations which made it difficult for Gagasan to help it."

He said Semangat was informed that during Kimma's supreme council meeting the members decided on the pullout because they had never supported the leadership's decision to join Gagasan.

Shabery said the Semangat supreme council had, at a meeting a week ago, decided that the relevance of Gagasan "vis-a-vis Malaysian politics" needed to be reviewed.

"While the meeting concluded that the only way opposition parties can expect better representations through a united front, it was also aware of Gagasan's shortcomings following the spate of pullouts," he said.

Shabery said Semangat was of the opinion there was a need for a united opposition front, probably not through

Gagasan but a new one with better cooperation among its members.

Singapore

Impact of Penang-Songkhla Land Bridge Viewed

BK1406145195 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 14 Jun 95 p 26

[Editorial: "Fear not the northern link"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Details that have emerged about the back-ground to a possible land-link between Penang and Songkhla in south Thailand hint at a clash commercial interests. That can make it tempting from the point of view of Singapore as an assumed loser in such a development to ask if the so-called land-bridge would get built. Defensive types might draw a parallel with suggestions to cut the Kra canal across the narrowest neck of south Thailand. Of such grand ideas, these people would declare "easier said than done". But judge the background for what it is. It has been reported that the Thai government is not, for now, that enthusiastic about the Penang-Songkhla idea. This is despite the fact that it has been set down as a probable project of the Northern Growth Triangle which brings together Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia. The Thais are said to be keener on a 100 per cent indigenous project, a road, rail and oil pipeline link from Krabi to Khanom to span the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand. Studies done by the Thais themselves and two major construction companies Bechtel Corporation of the United States and Japan's Nippon Koei, have not established clear-cut economic advantage, whether as a complement to Melacca Straits crossings or future growth potential.

Here is where the national interest kicks in: the Krabi-Khanom idea was conceived by the Chatchai Chunhawan government in the late 80s and has since been adopted by the Chuan Likphai administration as a growth catalyst for a neglected part of the country. Hence, the preference for this over the Penang-Songkhla project. A Penang anchor, it has been argued, would allow Malaysia to draw away more of the commerce that will flow between Myanmar [Burma], Vietnam, south Thailand and as far north as south China when the expansion of these regions reaches its peak in one to two decades. It comes down to a matter of economic nationalism. But the Malaysians are not to be discouraged. A study sponsored by the Economic Planning Unit and with participation by Malaysian and Japanese building companies is being readied to win over the Thais.

How should Singapore respond? Since it is not its style to permit itself to be enslaved by circumstance, it has to work on the premise that a northern link will eventually be built. Where it shall be is immaterial. This is regardless of the complexities — political, operational, financial — that may argue against it for now. On the logic of the region's expansion and the goods and oil traffic that will grow as a result, extra capacity must be found to complement the Melacca Straits' carrying ability. Indonesia is looking at building a new port facing the narrow Sunda Straits. This is really more of the same, the "same" being the inexorable process of emerging economies snapping at Singapore's heels.

Clearly, there is only one way Singapore can respond, and it is in not waiting for the blow to land. This implies that a full traffic-handling capacity in south Thailand plus a sailing distance cut by 1,000 km will reduce greatly the dependence on Singapore's port facilities and oil complex. It does not seem likely, but some of the traffic will obviously be lost. An evaluation has no doubt been done by Singapore's futurists on a worst-case scenario of a Kra canal being built. Duck, then, or roll with the punches? On television the other night, Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong gave the only plausible response in the circumstances. To paraphrase him, Singapore has to be a better service provider and abler to cope with competition, before the northern link becomes fact. It comes back to the formula of superior equipment and facilities, better workers and work flows such that Singapore is as nearly indispensable as can be. And a positive factor may be overlooked in the brace-thyself musings: a new growth centre in south Thailand and northern Malaysia benefits the whole of Asean. As facilitator to the world, Singapore is in position to help in, and gain from, growth.

Cambodia

Chea Sim Issues Statement on National Assembly

BK1106130395 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 11 Jun 95

["Statement by Samdech Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia;" dated 10 June — read by announcer]

[FBIS Translated Text] Over the past few weeks, as chairman of the Kingdom of Cambodia's National Assembly, I have received many messages and faxes, particularly from the International Parliamentary Union, U.S. senators and congressmen, and members of parliament in Britain, Japan, and the Swiss Federation; human rights organizations; (?various) associations; and other Cambodian and foreign personalities who expressed their respective views and concern over some events taking place within the Kingdom of Cambodia's National Assembly.

On behalf of the Kingdom of Cambodia's National Assembly and in my own name, I would like to express profound gratitude to the attention and sympathy expressed. These are precious contributions helping Cambodia remain on the track of countries developing in accordance with democracy. Along with the above thanks, allow me to inform you of the following:

As the representative of the Cambodian nation, the Kingdom of Cambodia's National Assembly, born of the great assistance of the international community, will do whatever it can to strengthen the basic foundation of liberal democracy by properly respecting the Constitution, the National Assembly's internal regulations, and electoral law. We will not do anything outside the above framework and will not make ourselves move backward or away from the principle of multiparty liberal democracy, respect for human rights, and the norm of international human rights law. This is the resolute pledge of our National Assembly to over 9 million Cambodian people and the entire international community.

For all the problems arising now and in the future within our National Assembly, we will strive to resolve them with high responsibility and correctly for the benefit of national reconciliation, stability, and the consolidation of our young liberal democracy. We will not make our friends in the international community loose confidence and trust in the National Assembly, the Royal Government, and Cambodian leaders.

We will always welcome precious cooperation to help our people in national reconstruction along the liberal democratic path.

Phnom Penh, 10 June 1995

Officials View Possible End of Sam Rangsi Case

BK1406124995 Phnom Penh REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 14 Jun 95 pp 1, 11

[Report by Srei Neat]

[FBIS Translated Text] Reports concerning Sam Rangsi's [former finance minister] removal from FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and the National Assembly sharply differ. Two sources say that Sam Rangsi's case has not come to a definite conclusion; it is like a smoldering volcano.

Ahmat Yahya, a FUNCINPEC official and member of the National Assembly's Standing Committee, told REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA on the morning of 12 June that the Sam Rangsi case has already been solved; that is, Sam Rangsi can remain in the party and the National Assembly. Ahmat Yahya referred to the initiative by Prince Kromkhun Norodom Sirivut, secretary general of FUNCINPEC, in asking Sam Rangsi to apologize to the party so as to avert the move to expel him from the party and the National Assembly. He said a number of party members were pleased with the initiative because they did not want to see a party rift. Ahmat Yahya said the expulsion of Sam Rangsi would undermine FUNCINPEC's standing and would prompt some party members to quit.

Ahmat Yahya added that the matter has already come to a close; there is no more division. He said he did not know whether Sam Rangsi had written a letter of apology. He pointed out, however, that Sam Rangsi's apology would not be publicized to prevent him from being too humiliated or dishonored.

According to informed sources close to Sam Rangsi, he has not apologized. He will only drop his lawsuit brought against Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister and FUNCINPEC party chairman, in a French court.

A senior official of FUNCINPEC's Executive Committee who asked that his name be withheld told REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA by telephone on the evening of 12 June that the Executive Committee maintains its stance on the expulsion of Sam Rangsi adopted on 13 June and that Sam Rangsi has not yet offered a written apology. He asked: Who dares say that Sam Rangsi's case has already come to an end? What are they referring to? What right do they have to make such a statement?

The official added that the apology was certainly initiated by Prince Kromkhun Norodom Sirivut, but so far there has been nothing in writing. Following his initiative, to smooth out the matter, the prince krompreah party chairman decided to leave the apology for consideration by the Executive Committee. The committee has not changed its stance because it has yet to see a letter from Sam Rangsi.

The official also said that despite the prince krompreah's decision, the Executive Committee has resolved to let the prince make the final decision because he is the party chairman.

Analysts still express doubt about these two solutions because of the completely conflicting ideas expressed by two officials from the same party.

Some believe that the Sam Rangsi case has not yet been concluded, taking into account a letter sent by the prince krompreah to Andecs B. Johnson, secretary general of the Interparliamentary Union [IPU], on 7 June and a report by the English-language newspaper CAMBODIA TODAY on 12-13 June.

In the letter, the prince krompreah thanked the IPU for its concern, but said he was astonished by the IPU's stance, which is different from UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali's position that the matter is Cambodia's internal affair; a legal domestic issue. The prince pointed out that FUNCINPEC replaced MP Yang Sem with Sot Say in the Kratie constituency with no discussion; it merely made a request that was approved by Austin, who was in charge of the election in Cambodia. The prince stressed that Sam Rangsi's removal could be done in accordance with Article 78, Chapter 2 of the 1992 electoral law of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia].

Analysts are bewildered by the issue. They say this matter depends entirely on Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh and Sam Rangsi and that the letter sent by National Assembly Chairman Samdech Chea Sim to the IPU on 10 June is of no importance.

Phnom Penh-Battambang Rail Line Damage Viewed

BK1406124795 Phnom Penh REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 14 Jun 95 pp 1, 5

[FBIS Translated Text] Li Bunrin, administrative chief of the railways in Battambang Province, has disclosed that rail traffic in the Moung Russei District area is still facing difficulties following the reopening of the Phnom Penh-Battambang line in mid-May because of destruction by the Khmer Rouge.

The official added that mine explosions are still frequent in the area. At 2100 on 11 June, mines laid by Khmer Rouge rebels between Kaoh Cha and Kouk Trom north of the district seat exploded, damaging 36 meters of track and four cross ties.

Police sources in Battambang Province reported that at 2210 on the same day, five Khmer Rouge sneaked in to use mines to destroy three meters of track at Tuol Kruos, about 1 km south of Prey Svay commune in the same district. The sources said the police fired three B-40 rockets to force the rebels to retreat. The chief of Battambang Province's railways added that the Khmer Rouge are using improvised mines that are more dangerous than conventional ones.

When this kind of mine explodes, it leaves a pit between 1.5 and 2.5 meters deep. This causes problems for repair work because more time is required. Li Bunrin went on to say that there are patrols to protect the line but the Khmer Rouge still manage to cause destruction.

The official added that special rail traffic between Pursat and Battambang has been inoperative for five months. During this period the Khmer Rouge have destroyed 12 bridges, nine drainage pipes, and 3,500 meters of track. He said that during the same period some mischievous people stole thousands of iron cross ties, causing even more damage to the railway line. The regional chief of the railroad also disclosed that in the first five months of 1995 no less than that 200 million riel of revenue has been lost because the Battambang-Phnom Penh line is inoperative.

Indonesia

Jakarta 'Regrets' France's Nuclear Tests

BK1506052095 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0500 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Indonesia regrets France's decision to resume its nuclear tests and urges that country to reconsider its decision. A press release of the Department of Foreign Affairs says that Indonesia regrets the French decision because it runs completely counter to the decision of the 1995 conference to extend the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Editorial Plays Down PRC Claim to Natunas

BK1406141095 Jakarta BISNIS INDONESIA in Indonesian 7 Jun 95 p 6

[Editorial: "The Natuna Project and China's Claim"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Natuna islands were initially considered a point of friction in relations between Indonesia and China. The two countries argued over the ownership of the islands and their waters, which are rich in natural resources, including gas. Of course, a potential Jakarta-Beijing conflict has to be seriously monitored, although the potential for conflict weakened after Foreign Affairs Minister Ali Alatas denied the existence of any Chinese claim several days ago.

The statement of Foreign Affairs Minister Alatas is expected to remove any future doubt over the status of the Natuna islands. The matter is linked to efforts to explore and exploit natural gas in the Natuna islands and their surrounding areas.

China has become an influential actor on the international stage since its bamboo curtain was opened by President Richard Milhous Nixon in the early 1970's. The establishment of diplomatic relations with Washington has enabled Beijing to gain access to Western economies, businesses, and technology and win the diplomatic recognition of other countries.

Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, who does not mind whether a cat is white or black, is adopting a policy different from the one adopted in the Soviet Union.

Deng has implemented very radical economic reforms that have attracted foreign investment.

This initiative seems to be more successful than the political reforms undertaken by his Soviet partner Mikhail Gorbachev. Deng is simply undergoing minor ripples in a glass, while Mikhail Gorbachev was purged and replaced by Boris Yeltsin, a reformist who is no less ambitious.

In addition, Deng has managed to undertake a clear leadership succession process. The skilled politician has chosen Jiang Zemin as his successor. Jiang has quickly conducted a clean-up operation to protect the reforms. Jiang Zemin purged, among others, politburo member Chen Xitong, and Beijing Mayor Li Qiyan under the pretext of corruption and other issues.

Deng's old age has indeed caused various anxieties, especially concern over the fate of all the reforms under his open-door policy. If the old politician dies, there will likely be various efforts to undermine the central government. In particular, there will be efforts to cause disintegration, sabotage the decisions of the central government, and openly oppose the Western-style reforms.

Despite the strong challenges, the economic reforms are likely to be irreversible. The economic restructuring, propelled by China's internal strength, will continue. In addition, Deng's successors are expected to be committed to strengthening the policy charted by Deng Xiaoping.

China's relative economic and political stability has enabled China to become a new economic power. China has been recognized as a necessary power, but China has simultaneously come under suspicion due to its past ambitions. This ambivalent attitude, which is adopted by a number of other Asian countries, was openly disclosed by Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong during an international conference in Beijing some time ago.

There seems to be a positive prospect for future relations between Indonesia and China. Foreign Affairs Minister Alatas stated that China had never laid claim to the Natuna islands and their surrounding waters. Beijing has merely made an illustrative map that does not indicate any claim or bear the usual coordinates.

The statement is expected to further brighten the development of the Natuna gas megaproject, worth at U.S. $43 billion. The megaproject will help determine the fate of national economic development. It will at least compensate for lower foreign exchange earnings from oil because growing domestic demands for oil have reduced oil exports. This is a doomsday scenario [preceding two words in English].

A consortium of investors in the Natuna gas megaproject has demanded not only the assurance of market access but also some political assurance for the megaproject, which requires billions of dollars worth of investment. The area they will invest in must be free from claims by other countries.

Once again, the statement of Foreign Affairs Minister Ali Alatas is expected to assure the investors that the Natuna megaproject offers not only a lucrative market but also a comfortable investment situation. This is very important because the megaproject has competitors.

Meeting in Austria on East Timor Ends

Alatas Discusses Outcome

BK1406131395 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 12 Jun 95 p 19

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Jakarta, 12 Jun — Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said the All Inclusive Intra East Timorese Dialogue, AETD, held recently in Austria, had proceeded smoothly in line with its objectives as envisaged by an earlier meeting attended by the Indonesian and Portuguese foreign ministers and the UN secretary general in Geneva last January.

Minister Alatas said this after he met with a delegation of East Timor leaders at Pejambon, Jakarta, on Saturday (10 June). The meeting in Austria was held under the framework agreed at the earlier tripartite meeting, namely, it would not discuss East Timor's political status and would only focus on practical discussions that might provide new or supporting proposals for the current dialogues between the two countries' foreign ministers.

Commenting on Guilherme Maria Goncalves's reported decision to renounce the Balibo Declaration (declaration on East Timor's integration into Indonesia in October 1975) and call for a new referendum, Minister Alatas said Gonvalces had reverted his decision and returned here. However, as for the reason on Goncalves' about-face, Alatas asked reporters to directly ask the person concerned. [passage omitted on Goncalves' biography]

Alatas said the results of the AETD will however not conflict with the current dialogues between the Indonesian and Portuguese foreign ministers because there is only one channel of talks, namely, the tripartite talks.

Despite [anti-Indonesia East Timor leader] Ramos Horta's earlier assertion that discussions on East Timor's political status would be inevitable and his plan to raise the issue of the autonomy status and the withdrawal of Indonesian troops, these matters did not materialize at the AETD meeting.

"Therefore, the meeting proceeded smoothly in line with the agreed framework," he said, adding that the Indonesian Government will have to decide on a proposal that a second similar meeting be held again. Other proposals are seen as nothing new.

The outcome of the meeting in Austria in the form of a joint declaration will be carefully studied by the Indonesian Government. "I believe the Portuguese Government is also studying it," Alatas said. In the coming meeting attended by the two countries' foreign ministers and the UN secretary general in July, the outcome of the AETD meeting will be discussed and assessed so as to respond to the proposals listed in the joint declaration.

Alatas also described as nothing new the sixth article in the joint declaration. The article stressed the importance of the current talks between the Indonesian and Portuguese Governments under the auspices of the UN secretary general aimed at seeking a fair and comprehensive solution to the East Timor issue. The sixth article is in fact referring to the talks held since 1983 when Ali Alatas was still Indonesia's permanent representative to the United Nations, and also to his position as Indonesia's current foreign minister.

Alatas said Indonesia had agreed to hold the tripartite dialogue because it had been initiated by the UN secretary general, not because of the UN General Assembly resolution No.37/30, which Indonesia refused to accept. Resolution No. 37/30 was adopted in 1982, when the debate and voting on East Timor was last held.

Resistance Group Comments

BK1406144095 (Internet) INDONESIA Listserv in English 0258 GMT 13 Jun 95

["Statement" issued by the National Council of Maubere Resistance on 12 June; place not given]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The UN Secretary General sponsored Intra-East Timorese Dialogue held at Burg Schlaining, Austria 2-5 June 1995, proved a success for the East Timorese people and their struggle for self determination and justice. It represented a setback to Indonesia, confirming Jakarta's fears that if let free from Indonesian control, most East Timorese will express dissatisfaction with the present occupation of their homeland.

The Schlaining meeting demonstrated the continuing existence of a strong sense of East Timorese nationalism, overshadowing the apparent submission of those under Indonesian forced tutelage. Despite pressures exerted on them by Jakarta, many chose to join with their fellow nationals in exile, adopting by consensus the Burg Schlaining Declaration, which in effect is a denunciation of the unjust and oppressive conditions now prevailing in East Timor.

The Declaration calls for continuing intra-Timorese talks and affirms the importance of the UN Secretary General's current efforts to seek a just, comprehensive, and internationally acceptable solution to the East Timor problem "according to the provisions, letter and spirit of the General Assembly Resolution 37/30." It also refers to the need to address human rights, and to promote peace, stability, justice and social harmony in the territory. The declaration further acknowledges the need to preserve the people's cultural identity, and the need to teach their national language Tetum, and Portuguese.

Politically, the most significant aspect of the declaration is its support for the UN Secretary General's efforts as mandated by resolution 37/30. This shows clearly that East Timorese leaders, whether in exile or under Indonesian tutelage, affirm the international status of the East Timor problem, implicitly rejecting the Jakarta promoted myths that decolonisation of East Timor has been achieved. UN General Assembly Resolution 37/30 asks the Secretary General to initiate consultations with all directly concerned parties so as to find a settlement. It also asks the UN General Assembly "Committee of 24" (on granting independence to colonial territories) to keep monitoring the East Timor situation, and calls upon UN specialised agencies to assist the people of East Timor, "in close consultation with Portugal, as the Administering Power".

Most dialogue participants allowed by Jakarta to participate were not really independent nor representative, being Indonesian public servants. Only some truly independent East Timorese were able to attend, as a result of a most praiseworthy UN insistence with Jakarta. Yet all unanimously joined their exiled compatriots in stressing the present poor human rights and justice situation in the occupied territory. Their call for development to be attentive to the people's cultural identity, and for the teaching of the Tetum and Portuguese languages, can be read as a criticism of the current Jakarta policies of cultural obliteration.

Former Indonesia appointed East Timor Governor Guilherme Maria Goncalves, violently condemned the current situation in East Timor, strongly calling for a referendum on independence. With Dili lawyer Tarcisio Amaral periodically reporting on the meeting's progress by telephone to Indonesian intelligence, there are grounds for grave fears to exist regarding the safety of Goncalves after his return to Indonesia. Foreign embassies and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Jakarta need to monitor his situation.

The defiance by East Timorese Indonesian subjects was short lived. Immediately after the adoption of the Burg Schlaining Declaration, two Indonesian secret intelligence agents rushed to meet Suharto Ambassador Lopes da Cruz at Schlaining town. The next day, Indonesian Ambassadors to London, the UN in New York, The Hague and Vienna met the East Timorese Indonesians at the Vienna Hilton Hotel, and forced them to issue a retraction to the Declaration .

Observers travelling with the East Timorese delegation on their return flight from Vienna to Jakarta, noted members' apprehension about the negative consequences they anticipated from their expression of Intra-East Timorese nationalist solidarity at Burg Schlaining. It is clear that their Jakarta overlords, particularly Foreign Minister Alatas, cannot be happy with this latest diplomatic defeat.

From an East Timorese perspective, the Schlaining Intra-East Timorese Dialogue represents a further valuable step forward in the UN Secretary General's efforts to seek a just and genuine solution to the East Timor problem.

Alatas, Golkar Members Discuss East Timor

UN Role Viewed

BK1406120395 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Ali Alatas, speaking as an official of the Golkar [Functional Group] Central Executive Council, said in Dili that the East Timor issue cannot be settled by individuals. The issue must be settled by two governments — the Indonesian and Portuguese — under the aegis of the UN secretary general.

Speaking during a meeting with Golkar members in East Timor yesterday, the minister said the East Timor issue can only be settled in this way. He said the East Timor issue cannot be settled wisely if it is handled only by individuals or by Indonesia and Portugal without UN involvement.

Answering a participant's question, Minister Ali Alatas said the United Nations acts as a facilitator and observer and does not chair the talks on the East Timor issue.

Balibo Declaration Debated

BK1406133295 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 14 Jun 95 p 11

[FBIS Translated Text] Dili, KOMPAS — The question of the legitimacy of the Balibo Declaration — a policy connected to East Timor as an integral part of the Republic of Indonesia — has once again surfaced, particularly with regard to East Timor's existence as an integral part of Indonesia. According to a statement, the Balibo Declaration is in fact not one of the policies connected with the integration of East Timor.

The question emerged during a dialogue session between Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, as a Golkar [Functional Party] Executive Council functionary, and members of the East Timor Golkar chapter in Dili on Tuesday (13 June). The question was asked by Filomeno, head of Dili's Golkar provincial executive council, and Domingos Saldanha, head of the Dili chapter of the KNPI [Indonesian National Youth Committee], during a question-and-answer session. It was stated that East Timor had expressed its desire to become an integral part of Indonesia long before the Balibo Declaration was even drawn up.

Apart from the question of the declaration, questions were also raised regarding the development of East Timor; the Indonesian Government's nonchalant attitude toward the East Timor issue; the East Timor community's desire for more open dialogues with greater stress on equality and Bishop Belo's role.

The foreign minister is on a three-day visit to East Timor. The minister was scheduled to visit Ermera this morning to meet local youths, where he would hand over funds for education.

Inaccurate

On the question of the Balibo Declaration, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said it was inaccurate to consider the declaration as a base for East Timor's integration. According to the foreign minister, East Timor's desire to become an integral part of Indonesia had been expressed long before the declaration was drawn up. He cited an example on which leaders of the 1959 East Timor movement had been banished to Angola and Mozambique, jailed, or hanged.

Alatas called for a more accurate perception of the Balibo Declaration. Alatas said: "Should the East Timor observers and leaders themselves request that the problem be straightened out and consider the Balibo Declaration as the main aspiration for the province's integration, regardless of their submitting a petition on 31 May to formulate such an aspiration, I think more appropriate documents can be sought to present a precise picture as desired by the East Timor leaders and observers themselves."

Bishop Belo's Role

On Alatas' statement regarding the possibility of Bishop Belo "fortifying strength" in East Timor, Alatas said he did not remember whether he had ever made any statements alleging that Bishop Belo was building up any strength. He said: "Such a thought has never ever crossed my mind."

In this connection, he said he highly respects Bishop Belo's pastoral position and responsibilities and salutes him on his uprightness and wisdom in serving the Catholic community. He said: "I have no comments to make with regard to this." He considered that Bishop Belo's involvement in several incidents, such as the 12 November 1991 Dili incident, was merely the carrying out of his duty as a "father" to a Catholic community needing consolation.

However, Alatas admitted that he had sometimes commented on Bishop Belo's statements when he discovered that the bishop's statements touched on the settlement of the East Timor issue through a referendum. According to Alatas, such statements referred to the political aspects, which are largely the foreign minister's responsibility. He said: "Regardless of anything else, I highly respect his position as a bishop."

Replying to Manuel Carrascalao's question whether Indonesia felt belittled and irked by the questions asked by foreign correspondents who had entered East Timor, Alatas said Indonesia was unconcerned but had reacted strongly to numerous allegations or deceptive reports. However, the incessant repetition of the lies finally revealed the truth to the people, who had initially been taken in by the lies.

Given such statements, Indonesia changed its tactics and became proactive; it refuted the allegations and exposed the lies by providing other credible facts. Alatas said: "Currently, they [the foreign correspondents] have become quieter because they are not only facing Ali Alatas but also the East Timorese themselves. Is this not preferable to allowing the lies to perpetuate themselves indefinitely?"

Alatas acknowledged that developments in East Timor have yet to satisfy everyone. He added that the government is currently giving greater attention to addressing this problem, particularly with regard toward establishing a more compatible and correct social culture. To overcome this problem, Alatas urged all parties to jointly participate by contributing more recommendations and to judge the problem in its true perspective. He said: "This is our joint responsibility."

Foreign Reports on East Timor 'Exaggerated'

BK1406131595 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 13 Jun 95 p 10

[FBIS Translated Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS — Baharuddin Lopa, secretary general of the National Commission on Human Rights, believes that foreign reports on human rights violations in East Timor have occasionally been exaggerated. Thus, the National Commission on Human Rights deems it necessary to immediately open a branch office in East Timor to counter reports that have not always been true.

"We have planned to open a branch office of the National Commission on Human Rights there. However, it is not yet certain whether the plan will be realized this year or next," Lopa said in reply to KOMPAS at his office on Monday (12 June).

According to Lopa, the National Commission on Human Rights plans to open the branch office in East Timor for the reason that foreigners will no longer have to directly check reports on any human rights violations in East Timor if the commission has a branch office in the region.

"Probes by the National Commission on Human Rights will be more objective than foreign reports. Foreign reports have occasionally been exxagerated and have not always been true," Lopa said.

Meanwhile, Clementino dos Reis Amaral, a member of the National Commission on Human Rights from East Timor, hoped that the commission would immediately open its branch office in East Timor to ensure that all human rights questions in East Timor will be well handled.

Positive Response

The local youth and church have responded positively to the plan. East Timor Governor Abilio Jose Osorio Soares and Dili Diocese Bishop Monsignor Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo responded positively to the plan and the two East Timor leaders are ready to cooperate with the National Commission on Human Rights in settling various human rights-related problems there.

Salavador Ximenes Soares, member of House Commission II [in charge of home affairs], also welcomed the intention of the National Commission on Human Rights to extend its wings to East Timor because justice and the maintenance of law in East Timor have been in the spotlight abroad.

"We need to redress such issues. We must seek ways to enable the people to live happily, calmly, and peacefully without any pressure or suspicion," Salavador said.

A similar view was given by Florentino Sarmento, leader of a nongovernmental organization in East Timor. He said that justice and the maintenance of law are a matter of principle that must receive the serious attention of the Indonesian Government.

Philippines

Navy Sends Survey Teams to Spratlys

OW1406075995 Tokyo KYODO in English 0742 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Manila, June 14 KYODO — The Philippine Navy has sent two survey teams to the disputed Spratly Islands as part of a plan by Manila to strengthen its regional claim through the construction of lighthouses and markers, a military official said Wednesday.

The official, who requested anonymity, told KYODO NEWS SERVICE that manila is speeding up its long-delayed construction plan in the Philippine-claimed islands.

The official said the plan, hatched three or four years ago, failed to take off due to a lack of resources. He said the original deadline for finishing the project was actually June 30, 1995.

The two teams from the mapping service of the Philippine Armed Forces and the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority sailed last week to start surveying various islands and atolls.

"This is just to validate our measurements (of the islands) and to make sure they are accurate. We're doing it little by little," the military official said.

The original plan, approved by Philippine President Fidel Ramos in February 1994, involved the construction of lighthouses at Nares Bank, Recto or Marie Louise Bank, Seahorse Bank and Jackson Atoll.

The Spratlys chain — a group of islets and atolls straddling major sea-lanes in the South China Sea — is claimed wholly or in part by China, Vietnam, Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei and Malaysia.

The islands are believed to be rich in minerals and oil, and have been identified by security analysts as a potential flashpoint in Southeast Asia.

Military Destroys PRC Marker in Pag-asa Island

BK1506045595 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Philippine military recently blasted a Chinese marker (?standing) near Pag-asa Island in the disputed Spratlys as part of government efforts to assert sovereignty in the area. A senior military officer, speaking on condition of anonymity, says a major crane demolish the Chinese marker 10 days ago as part of surveillance operations on Pag-asa Island.

Tension between Manila and Beijing (?raised) in February after China constructed platforms on Mischief Reef. Philippine officials say the platforms could be for military use but the Chinese say they are only shelters for Chinese fishermen. The Philippine military has already decided not to demolish the Chinese structures on Mischief Reef but made it clear it will not tolerate Chinese structures beyond the area.

Muslims Oppose Crescent Moon on National Flag

BK1506012295 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 2230 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Several Muslim organizations oppose the inclusion of crescent moon on the Philippine flag, as recently proposed by President Ramos. According to Naga Madalin of the Muslim Affairs Committee under the National Commission on Culture and Arts, it would be better if another ray were added to the sun on the flag, as a symbol of the Muslims and other minority groups not placed under the control of the Spaniards. Despite this, President Ramos assured that his proposal to redesign the flag will pass through a thorough process of study.

[Begin Ramos recording in English, in progress] ...through a plebiscite. Again, in accordance with constitutional procedures; so, we are — at that level now — just studying these things, the same way we study many things seriously in this administration. But it is something worthwhile to study because this could improve, enhance the social cohesion in Mindanao and surely, that would also improve our stability and our peace and order conditions; so a study of this nature is worth undertaking. [end recording]

Thailand

Commerce Ministry To Amend Insurance Law

BK1506041895 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jun 95 p b2

[Report by Surachai Chuphaka of The Nation]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The International Economic Relations Committee has ordered the Commerce Ministry to amend the general insurance law to comply with the Thai-U.S. Amity Treaty.

The changes would allow U.S.-owned Universal Insurance Co to convert its eleven representative offices in Thailand into branches.

Deputy Premier Dr Suphachai Phanitchaphak, who chaired yesterday's committee meeting, said the Foreign Affairs Ministry will inform the United States of the resolution, which will take some time to implement.

The so-called Phaisan issue has remained unsolved since 1993 due to conflicts between the General Insurance Act BE 2535 and the Thai- U.S. treaty.

The insurance law bars foreign insurance firms from opening more than one branch in Thailand, but the treaty requires Thailand to treat U.S. companies as Thai national firms.

Meanwhile, Supphachai said the government will ask the United States to treat Thai canned pineapple exporters fairly after the U.S. imposed a 30 per cent import duty on their goods.

Moei Bridge Snag Termed 'Technical' Problem

BK1506042295 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jun 95 p a6

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Acting Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan yesterday said a halt in the construction of the Thai-Burmese Friendship Bridge over the Moei River was caused by technical, not political, problems.

Surin reaffirmed that both Thailand and Burma were willing to complete construction of the bridge and that the halt would be temporary. He said both sides first had to clear up an allegation by Burmese authorities in Myawaddy concerning land reclaimed by Thai villagers in Tak province's Mae Sot District.

The bridge is being funded by the Thai government at a cost of Bt71 million and is 95 per cent finished.

"The Bridge is essential to the development of transportation networks between the two countries," said Surin who chaired the Thai-Burmese Friendship Bridge Committee.

"Thailand wants to see Burma achieve national reconciliation, and Burma wants to use the development of its border region to settle internal problems with an armed ethnic insurgency," he said.

Surin said Burmese Ambassador to Thailand Tin Muang Winn last week agreed to convey Thailand's proposal for a quick settlement of the matter at a committee level.

Surin said both Thailand and Burma wanted to clarify boundary matters so as to prevent any further disputes that might disrupt other planned cross-border transportation routes. Both sides are in the process of opening border checkpoints in Mae Sot and Ranong.

Burmese authorities last Wednesday asked for the suspension of construction work on the bridge linking Myawaddy with Mae Sot to protest against land reclamation by Thai villagers on the Moei River which the Burmese said had changed the flow of the river and affected the national boundary in those areas.

Countering the Burmese protest, Thai villagers accused the Burmese of investing nothing for the bridge and yet siphoning construction materials and rocks and soil from Thailand to build their border roads.

Informed sources said [what] the Burmese concern was the building of structures on the reclaimed bank by Thai villagers and merchants. The sources said Thai construction companies involved in the bridge had already withdrawn cranes and construction materials from the reclaimed lands.

"I am confident that there will be no scrapping of the construction work. It is just a temporary halt to allow for the investigation into the matter until the end results please every side," Surin said.

Surin said Thailand had no intention to change the geography of the river bank as claimed.

Parties' Economic Policies Viewed

BK1506041995 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jun 95 p b1

[Article by Surachai Chuphaka and Atchara Phongwuthitham]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] On paper there is little to choose between the economic policies of the Democrat and Chat Thai parties, the parties expected to emerge with the most seats from the July 2 election.

However, there are subtle differences in their economic approach to various issues. Clearly, the Chat Thai Party, as well as the Phalang Tham Party, are trying to capitalize on weaknesses in the Chuan administration that affected its economic policy making.

The Chat Thai manifesto, to be unveiled shortly in response to the Democrat's "Blue Book", will emphasize certain management principles important to directing the national economy.

Some of the nine declared working principles are: management with an "open mind"; coordination; global vision; and decisiveness with responsibility.

The leadership style of Chat Thai Party leader Banhan Sinlapa- acha and Democrat Party leader Chuan Likphai promise to be very different. During his tenure, Chuan rarely intervened in the affairs of ministers from other political parties. The "hands-off" approach was designed to maintain government stability by preventing friction in the ruling coalition. However, it stalled progress on several economic fronts, most notably attempts to resolve Bangkok's traffic problems.

Banhan will be more of a "hands-on" leader, but the Chat Thai Party will have difficulty finding capable MP's to fill ministry positions. The business community will be closely watching Chat Thai's efforts to solve this administrative shortcoming. The community has more confidence in Democrat MPs and the Democrat Party policy of accepting qualified outsiders for ministerial posts.

Suphat Suphachalasai, a lecturer at Thammasat University's Faculty of Economics and a key person in Banhan's advisory team, said the Chat Thai leader has thoroughly questioned the party's draft manifesto — down to policy starting points and time-frames for implementation.

If Banhan is appointed Prime Minister, he would have to push his Party's policies to members of the Cabinet, including Party Secretary General Sanyo Thianthong and Deputy Leader Watthana Atsawahem, who to this point, has not participated in drafting the manifesto, Suphat said.

Close scrutiny of both the Democrat and Chat Thai manifesto's reveals similar policies on investment, international trade and liberalization of the telecommunications industry and financial sectors. Both also adhere to the free market principle that economic activities should be managed to reflect real costs.

However, Suphat said the Chat Thai Party wants to shorten the time-frame for financial liberalization, especially the creation of new local banks. He claimed the 1995-2000 financial master plan designed by Tharin Nimmanhemin, the outgoing Democrat Finance Minister, is too slow.

The agenda of the Chat Thai Party appears to be very clear on paper. The Democrat's Blue Book is also very clear except that it mentions little of the management and coordination of ministers. Suphat, on the other hand, has hammered repeatedly at this point.

The Democrats have placed a greater emphasis on manpower development than the Chat Thai Party. The latter made little mention of the development of tourism.

The Democrat manifesto is very explicit on educational reform, but Chat Thai is set to expand the Democrat's student loan initiative for academic study to vocational study as well. Chat Thai plans to create aquariums, science parks, tele-education systems and sporting complexes to boost non-formal education.

The Democrat Blue Book also highlights urban development plans and methods for improving slum areas. It spells out a car zoning plan to solve Bangkok's traffic congestion in the short term. The Chat Thai Party claims it will speed up investment in an underground mass transit system.

Both parties emphasize the necessity for maintaining disciplined fiscal management. The Chat Thai Party wants to abolish the tax on interest earned on savings.

The Chat Thai Party plans to liberalize the financial sector to further lower the costs of borrowing, said Suphat. He added that the Thai financial sector remains too concentrated in the hands of the privileged class.

The Chat Thai Party wants to grant investment privileges to the farm sector with its declining numbers of farmers, so that it continues to be important to the nation. The Chat Thai party would use incentives available to the industrial sector under the Board of Investment to support the agricultural sector.

Vietnam

Move To Normalize of Ties With U.S. Viewed

Christopher's Proposal Viewed

BK1506105495 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 15 Jun 95

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher on Tuesday officially asked President Clinton to establish full diplomatic relations with Vietnam. His proposal was initiated by Assistant Secretary of State Winston Lord following his recent visit to Vietnam. On this issue our radio has this comment:

The proposal by the U.S. secretary of state on establishment of full diplomatic relations with Vietnam has been welcomed by large section of the American public. American Senators Mr. McCain and John Kerry welcomed the proposal and said they together with other congressmen would submit to the American Congress a draft resolution supporting the normalization of relations with Vietnam in July this year.

According to foreign sources, many American policymakers, officials, and business people held that it was high time for the U.S. to let the war in Vietnam be bygone and develop full economic and political relations with Vietnam, as Vietnam is rapidly developing its ties with other countries in the region. Normalization of relations with Vietnam now becomes an issue much concerned and interested by the American press and public opinion more than ever before. An American official said the pressure for normalization of relations is increasing toward the U.S. administration, particularly in the State Department.

Under the title 'Recognition of Vietnam', the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST said the United States has to recognize what other Asian nations have recognized; that is, Vietnam is a nation and is an important member of the region and the United States should do whatever it can to have diplomatic relations with Vietnam. The paper said in conclusion President Bill Clinton should encourage initiatives of the congressmen on the early normalization of relations with Vietnam. The sooner President Clinton exchanges embassy with Vietnam, the more he can limit losses in the confrontation with the Republican Party in the race into the White House.

THE NEW YORK TIMES editorial said that 20 years have elapsed since the end of the Vietnam War, Washington still not yet establishes full diplomatic relations with Vietnam. With the fact that experts express satisfaction of Vietnam's cooperation in the MIA issue, President Clinton should listen to advice of his senior advisers to recognize Vietnam before the pressure can be brought upon in the 1996 election year which may delay the process.

Radio Urges Rapid Progress

BK1406143695 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 14 Jun 95

[Station Commentary]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In recent days, Bill Hendon, former congressman of the Republican Party of North California talked much about what he called Vietnam's detention of American prisoners of war. American public has not believed in his statement, and President Bill Clinton himself acknowledged Vietnam's effort in the settlement of the MIA [missing in action] issue. Bill Hendon's statement has now been proved completely untrue. Vietnam has tried its best to actively solve the MIA issue. This has been admitted by American political circles. On May 29, in front of an audience mostly consisted of American war veterans, President Bill Clinton reiterated the recent mission dispersed by the president to Vietnam, and said it has received from the Vietnamese Government many important documents including 200 pages of documentation on MIA. He stated that the United States places the MIA issue above all other issues in the relations with Vietnam. He said he was very glad to say that he has received more cooperation from Hanoi. He also announced that his administration has made historic progress in the accounting of the fate of American personnel in the Vietnam War. He added that since he took power, more than 600 sets of remains of MIA have been handed over to the U.S. side. Moreover, some 200 discrepancy cases between the United States and Vietnam have been solved. He held that so far in the history of war, never before such efforts have been made to contribute to make clear the MIA issue as today.

Evidently, Vietnam's efforts have been acknowledged. For those who tried to distort Vietnam's goodwill in the MIA issue, to obstruct the process of normalization of relations between the two countries will not breed any expected results. [sentence as heard] In fact, the wide strategic interest, normalization of relations between the two countries has become unchanged trend. Certainly, President Bill Clinton will make decision on this issue in the near future. The remaining steps of the process of normalization of Vietnam-U.S. relations cannot be prolonged. If it is prolonged, whether the U.S. administration has enough time to prepare for a new marathon in the region, whose interests are wider than the United States. [sentence as heard]

Netherlands Premier Holds News Conference

BK1406120795 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 13 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear friends: In the framework of his current official friendship visit to our country, Netherlands Prime Minister Willem Kok held a news conference in Hanoi this evening.

First, his excellency the prime minister told the Vietnamese and foreign journalists about his current visit to Vietnam, saying:

[Begin Kok recording, in English fading into Vietnamese translation] It can be said that although our visit is very short, it has been very productive and highly successful. During this official visit, we met with many Vietnamese leaders such as their excellencies the prime minister, the deputy prime minister, the president, and the party general secretary as well as many ministers in charge of different sectors. Thus, the visit provided us with ample opportunity to meet with our partners. We shared views on many important issues, including the need to promote bilateral cooperation further, and to this end the need to increase the level of regional cooperation. As far as this issue is concerned, Vietnam will acquire ASEAN membership and the Netherlands will obtain EU membership next month [as heard]. We can strengthen bilateral cooperation through our participation in these two blocs. In particular, a summit conference of ASEAN leaders will be held early next year. We have high expectations for that meeting.

Besides regional cooperation and cooperation between these two blocs, we can strengthen bilateral cooperation on three different levels. The first level involves governmental organizations. We have already signed a number of accords and agreements in this regard. In the past, we increased our assistance through multilateral channels. We will continue to do so and further promote cooperation on a bilateral basis. The second level involves cooperation among nongovernmental organizations, universities, and technological and environmental protection research centers. The third level has to do with cooperation among business establishments. We are very pleased to note that our business establishments now rank third among northwestern European investors in Vietnam, behind France and Switzerland.

As far as I know, this is a very good opportunity for us to promote bilateral cooperation further in the days ahead to make it develop more deeply. Particularly, we have attached greater importance to political relations. As far as this issue is concerned, we stressed not only the necessity of bilateral cooperation but also the importance of political relations between the two countries. We also discussed issues relating to security and political stability, particularly in view of the current situation in Europe and other parts of the world.

In summary, I am very pleased with this visit to Vietnam and very optimistic about our future ties because the relations between Vietnam and the Netherlands have entered a new stage of very good development. [end recording]

Next, Mr. Rinnooy Kan, president of the Federation of Netherlands Enterprises, briefed the journalists on the activities of the Netherlands business delegation during this visit as well as the cooperative ties between Netherlands and Vietnamese business circles, saying:

[Begin Rinnooy Kan recording, in English fading into Vietnamese translation] Representatives of 20 Netherlands companies accompanied our prime minister on this visit. We were highly impressed by Vietnam's rapid economic growth rate and the Vietnamese people's efforts and their high expectations and optimism. Vietnam's economy is in a period of transition and is undergoing many changes. It goes without saying that the market economy will lead to certain consequences that must be overcome. Therefore, there is a special need to think of ways to formulate a legal system, further improve administrative procedures, and make all systems more compatible with the constant development of the market economy.

Yesterday, his excellency the Vietnamese prime minister dealt with a number of important sectors in Vietnam, such as agriculture, infrastructure building, and environmental protection. Today, we conducted a roundtable debate on water use, transport and communication, banking, and telecommunications. Our companies paid very close attention to all these domains and our seminars were very constructive and informative. We look forward to seeing Vietnam make rapid progress with each passing day.

In summary, we are very pleased with the results of the visit. A number of agreements were signed and preparations are being made for the implementation of other agreements. [end recording]

Dear friends, speaking at the news conference, Prime Minister Willem Kok and Mr. Rinnooy Kan answered a number of questions from Vietnamese and foreign journalists. Regarding the talks on buying and selling aircraft between the two countries, Prime Minister Willem Kok disclosed that the two sides are still holding discussions. In response to a question raised by a LAO DONG correspondent concerning ways for the Netherlands and Vietnam to overcome the difficulties arising from their cooperation program, His Excellency Prime Minister Willem Kok said:

[Begin Kok recording, in English fading into Vietnamese translation] While distances are not a real problem, financial problems are a real cause for concern. This is due to price differences. In Vietnam, production costs are very low whereas selling prices in Europe are high. Much remains to be done to compete in the European market. Nonetheless, there were very practical and favorable factors that the leaders of the two countries dealt with in their talks. We agreed on a number of priority areas for Vietnam such as agriculture, food processing, infrastructure building, port construction, building and management of water works, and management of environmental protection. The Netherlands can respond to the aforementioned needs because it has the technology, skills, experience, and financial resources. The problem is with ways for the two countries to improve the quality of their cooperation program further. Of course, opportunities abound. Nonetheless, this does not mean that our cooperation program will be completed tomorrow or the day after tomorrow. We need time. Bilateral talks on practical issues are underway to make sure that agreements can be signed at an early date. [end recording]

Dear friends, Netherlands Prime Minister Willem Kok and his wife hosted a grand reception in Hanoi this evening in the framework of their official friendship visit to our country.

Joint Cooperation Committee Meets in Budapest

BK1306153195 Hanoi VNA in English
1515 GMT 13 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA June 13 — The Vietnam- Hungary Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation Committee has held its 16th session in Budapest, Hungary, recently after seven years break.

The Vietnamese section to the committee was headed by minister of sciences, technology and environment, Dang Huu and the Hungarian section to the committee by minister of international trade and industry, Laszlo Pal.

The two sides exchanged views on bilateral cooperation program on production of means of transport, medical equipment, and food processing and some other areas in the coming time. They hailed the significance of the resumption of the operation of the committee which will contribute to the promotion of cooperation for the benefit of the two peoples.

Progress in Capital Market Development Detailed

BK1106085995 Hanoi VNA in English
0645 GMT 11 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA June 11 — Vietnam's capital market since 1994 has diversified its mobilization of domestic capital, bringing the combined capital of the state treasury and banks to 30,000 billion Vietnamese dong [VND] (roughly USD 2.7 billion) [U.S. dollars] in 1994, or an increase of 40 percent compared with last year.

Four state run banks with over 1,200 branches, 46 commercial joint stock banks, and nearly 200 public credit funds mobilized businesses and people to open deposit and savings accounts, and issued term-deposit bills. The savings mobilized by public credit funds from households in rural areas alone reached nearly 100 billion Vietnamese dong (equivalent to USD 9 million), a record so far. Apart from traditional capital mobilization methods, the Investment and Development Bank (IDB), and the Commercial and Industrial Bank (ICB) mobilized a great amount from household savings. These banks issued various kinds of bonds at different periods, increasing long-term, and medium term capital resources to meet economic development requirements.

The opening of about 40,000 individual accounts by the IDB with a total value worth billions of dong is a new method of capital mobilization. By March this year more than 7,750 individual accounts with total deposit worth USD 4.4 million and about 5,000 others valued at USD 4 million were opened in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, respectively.

In addition to bonds issued by the banking system, other state run businesses also issued their own bonds to mobilize capital for development including state treasury bills, urban development bonds in Ho Chi Minh City, and bonds for the Hoang Thach Cement Factory.

In 1995, bonds for the development of communications, navigation, energy, and aviation industries will be issued. Banking activities have also developed in different areas such as the 'capital market' within the banking sector. This market has operated since July 1993, involving 28 partners from commercial banks, joint stock banks and foreign banks operating in Vietnam with a total turnover of 40 billion Vietnamese dong (roughly 0.38 million USD) per day. On the other hand, the foreign currencies market in the banking sector began operating since October last year, including 34 of the 44 banks which have been permitted to be engaged in foreign currency transactions. By the end of March, 1995, nearly 350 million USD was circulated on the market.

In the past, the state bank fixed interest rates. But since last September it has only set a rate framework, while commercial banks can offer their own rates for savings and lending suitable to different clients and business targets.

In addition, investment funds have also been set up in an effort to attract more foreign investment capital. All these forms of banking activities are part of Vietnam's efforts to develop the country's stock market in line with the policy of economic reforms. Prime minister has approved the establishment of a steering committee to draft an ordinance on stock markets and various training courses have been opened to hundreds of people with international assistance.

Since late 1993, Vietnam resumed full normalization of relations with international financial and monetary institutions, including the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank (WB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), which have provided access to a number of loans and funds. Vietnam has signed agreements to attain loans totalling 281.4 million USD from the IMF, 140 million USD from the WB and is expected to have a 260 million USD loan from the ADB.

At present, Vietnam has mobilized capital worth 5,951 billion VND (about 550 million USD) from foreign bank branches in the country as well as joint venture banks to invest in different economic sectors.

To maintain an annual GDP growth of 9-10 percent from now to the year 2000, Vietnam needs a total investment capital of about 50 billion USD, while in 1995 this figure is approximately 56,000 billion VND (about 5.5 billion USD).

Circular Issued on Hanoi Dike Problems

BK1306111795 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 12 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The government office issued Circular No. 81-CP, dated 9 June, on an inference of Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai about a working session he held with the leading officials of various ministries and of the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee to discuss ways to finish the first phase neatly and start the second phase of a drive against violations of the law on dike protection at the Yen Phu-Nhat Tan dike segment in Hanoi.

The circular says: On 7 June Deputy Prime Ministers Phan Van Khai, Nguyen Khanh, and Tran Duc Luong met with leading officials of the Ministry of Water Conservation, other ministries and sectors, and the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee to hear reports from the Ministry of Water Conservation and the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee. The meeting was called to discuss ways to increase efforts to deal with violations of the law on dike protection at the Yen Phu-Nhat Tan dike segment.

Comrade Phan Sy Ky, deputy minister of water conservation, and Comrade Hoang Van Nghien, chairman of the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee, spoke on efforts to implement various decisions by the prime minister. The government office report on the inspection of the implementation of the prime minister's decision on this matter was presented. The views of the representatives of various participating ministries and sectors were heard. Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh and Tran Duc Luong also presented their views. Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai then reached the following conclusion:

Actions taken in the first phase produced good results. They were effective as they won the people's sympathy. Lately, however, the cooperation between various ministries, sectors, and localities have not been close enough and a number of initiatives have been carried out sluggishly, thus adversely affecting efforts to strengthen the dikes and to make it difficult for us to ensure the deadline [for dike strengthening] set by the prime minister.

To complete the first phase properly, the deputy prime minister assigned the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee the primary duty of joining various ministries in urgently resolving certain tasks such as:

— Directing efforts to dismantle all remaining construction projects located 5 meters within the dike clearance area on both sides of the dike. As for those construction projects with portions located 5 meters within the dike clearance limit, if such dismantling is expected to make the remaining parts of the structure unsafe, we must dismantle the entire structure to ensure safety. Technical responsibility for dismantling activities rests with the Ministry of Water Conservation and the Ministry of Construction, while the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee is responsible for guiding and encouraging the people to comply with this requirement. Compulsory measures will be taken against households who refuse to comply.

— The Hanoi Municipal People's Committee and the Ministry of Water Conservation must provide close guidance for leveling the remaining construction works in the Hai Co Spirit House area. If there is any resistance to the officials working in that area, we must adopt compulsory measures and encourage the people to comply with the dismantling.

With regard to the removal of electric projects, the Ministry of Water Conservation must check to see whether there are are any projects which can be left untouched without affecting the durability and safety of the dike. Such cases must be promptly reported to the prime minister for decision.

To ensure enough water for the daily needs of local residents, the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee must direct the water supply corporation to urgently install water lines, trying to ensure that this task be completed before 20 June. At the same time, the Ministry of Water Conservation and the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee must urgently direct construction of a 5 meter wide emergency road on both sides of the dike, grow grass on dike slopes, build dike entrances and exit roads for use in various residential areas and take steps to prevent dirt from sliding down on residences.

All work under the first phase must be completed before 30 June in accordance with a decision by the prime minister.

As for actions to be taken under the second phase, the deputy prime minister asked the Ministry of Water Conservation, the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee, and other ministries and sectors to follow the suggestions by the Political Bureau in dealing with the violations at the Yen Phu-Nhat Tan dike portion in Hanoi, and on Directive No. 274-TTG, dated 5 May, by the prime minister in making prompt studies to draw up an action plan. When taking technical actions, we must adhere to general principles. This means that we must focus primarily on the need to ensure safety for the dike and on the actual survey of the soil structure of each dike portion. This is done as a check to see what projects are to be dismantled wholly or partly in such a way as to ensure maximum safety for the dike, to strictly maintain law and order, and ensure damage to the property of the people and the state is minimized.

The Ministry of Water Conservation and other relevant ministries must promptly examine this task before making it public.

The Hanoi Muncipal People's Committee must comply with the policy to provide support for the dismantling and evacuation efforts as it did under the first phase.

After identifying the public dismantling measures, these ministries must encourage people with homes and other structures to be dismantled to carry out this task in a careful fashion.

It is necessary to announce clearly that these are just technical measures to be taken by the Ministry of Water Conservation to ensure maximum safety for the dike. Therefore, owners of construction projects are also liable for legal consideration and actions.

Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai emphasized: Efforts to deal with this issue in accordance with the law are complex, having much to do with the law now in effect, including the need to report to and seek suggestions from the National Assembly Standing Committee. A prerequisite for such actions is that it must be carried out openly and fairly.

To ensure that such actions produce good results in accordance with the spirit of guidance from the Political Bureau, the deputy prime minister assigned the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee to assume the main duty of cooperating with the Ministries of Justice, Interior, Water Conservation, and Construction, and with the Cadastral [Surveying] General Department, the Supreme People's Organ of Control, the Supreme People's Court, and the Central Committee's Mass Motivation Department in promptly working out a plan to deal with dike violations. This is to be reported to the prime minister prior to making this plan public or soliciting the views of the National Assembly Standing Committee.

The Ministry of Justice must cooperate with the Ministry of Water Conservation in preparing a report containing an explanation of the law on dike protection so the prime minister can submit them to the National Assembly Standing Committee before making them public.

As the Ministry of Water Conservation and the Hanoi Muncipal People's Committee have made self criticism in accordance with a directive of the Political Bureau, the Ministry of Construction and the Cadastral General Department must also make self criticism of their performance in exercising their state management functions for having allowed the violations of the law on dike protection. These self criticisms must be reported to the government before 20 June.

While preparing a plan for legal action, the Ministry of Water Conservation must promptly complete a plan for technical action before presenting it to the public for implementation.

Report on Desertion Problems in Military Units

'First Part' of Report

BK1406124095 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 12 Jun 95

["First part" of an "investigative report" by Correspondent Ngan Lien: "Why Newly Recruited Troops Still Desert the Army — Causes and Countermeasures]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear Comrades and Friends: The management, education, and training of soldiers to upgrade our regular military forces in one step has made many new achievements in recent years. Why, then, do soldiers still desert the ranks? What are the causes? What measures have been adopted to limit such violations of discipline in military units gradually? These issues are a cause of concern not only for military cadres but for all ministries, echelons, localities, and families of soldiers.

We have conducted many field trips to different military units to investigate the situation. Recently, we accompanied a delegation of the General Staff's Combat Training Department [CTD]. The CTD advises the Ministry of National Defense on training and combat readiness in the Armed Forces.

During the trip, we learned that military units in the southern part of central Vietnam and in southern Vietnam — despite a great decrease in desertion rates — have failed to limit the troop desertion rate to the level outlined by the Political General Department.

Desertion rates for military units deployed in northern Vietnam have decreased many times over compared to three or five years ago. In Dac To Division, the desertion rate among new soldiers was quite high in 1992. In 1994, all Army units in this division were successful in limiting the number of desertions, and in the first six months of this year the desertion rate for this division was less than 3 percent. The H-72 Artillery Division under the Fifth Military Region now has a desertion rate of just 4.7 percent. The desertion rate of Division 968 under the Fourth Military Region is nearly 1 percent and that of Division B-25 of the Huong Giang Armed Corps is only 1.25 percent. The desertion rate in Regiment 95 used to be relatively serious but has now improved, with the desertion rate falling 1.8 percent from the previous year.

Many military units recruit, manage, and train a large number of new soldiers each year but suffer no desertions, particularly after they implement Directive 37 on the acceleration of Army modernization issued by the Central Military Party Committee. These achievements are a result of the efforts and progress of our Armed Forces. Yet why do many soldiers still desert their units? Through practical investigation in a number of armed units, military regions, armed corps, Army forces, and so forth, we found the following main causes:

First, young men are not thoroughly educated on the obligations outlined in the Law on Military Service when they join the Armed Forces. Therefore, they do not fully understand their responsibilities toward national construction and protection. Many local authorities do not pay proper attention to explaining military service to the youths.

Some military recruits have a poor knowledge of political consciousness and social relations. Therefore, they misunderstand the citizen's responsibility in building the Armed Forces. I cite the following evidence: A cadre in Song Cau District of Phu Yen Province asked another cadre of Division 10 of the Tay Nguyen Armed Corps whether our soldiers still have to undergo a week of humiliation training. I would like to say that humiliation training only existed in the puppet army [former South Vietnamese army]; soldiers of the Revolutionary Army fulfill their obligations and responsibilities in the interest of the fatherland, the people, and their families because it is the obligation, responsibility, and right of every citizen. I do not want to criticize the district cadre who asked the question, but we can ask ourselves how he can educate local young men on the Law on Military Service if this is his knowledge.

We can also ask why draftees desert a few days after they are assigned to their military units instead of in the locality where they are recruited, as in previous years. In fact, draftees do not desert at first because they are afraid of direct punishment for violating the Law on Military Service. Also, many localities want to fulfill their duty by sending enough draftees. After that they do not care about the results. Therefore, some localities even send unqualified youths to the Armed Forces. This was the case with Nguyen Thanh Lam, born in 1973 in Le Hong Phong subward in Quy Nhon city. Lam had been imprisoned on criminal offenses for two years in Danang. Nonetheless, he was recruited to substitute for his brother, Nguyen Thanh Son, in the first military recruitment of 1995 and was sent to Group 6 of Regiment 24. In the first month, he induced other recruits to desert three times, creating a bad influence and problems for the military group.

Out of poor understanding or lack of responsibility, many localities are still inflexible in mobilizing youths to serve in the Army. Tran Van Phu of An Phu village, Tuy An District, Phu Yen Province is one of many concrete examples. Phu's parents died when he was young. He was supported by an older brother until he got married. When his wife was about to give birth to their first child, he sent an application to postpone military service until the next recruitment. His application was rejected and he was called to the Army. After a few days he deserted. In another case, Huynh Van Den, Tran Van Toan, Tran Van Thong, and Nguyen Chi Sy of Song Cau District in Phu Yen also deserted their units after a few days. In these cases, the families and local authorities did nothing or their families went along with their decision to dodge their responsibility as citizens.

Another reason for desertion is that some draftees work in paid jobs such as brick layer, carpenter, watch repairer, radio and cassette repairer, driver, driver's assistant, motorcycle mechanic, porter, trader, and so forth. They are used to a lifestyle of excessive spending. Through our investigation, we found that these draftees spent between 80,000 and 200,000 dong a week. When their families did not send money, they deserted the Army by any means.

Some city youths are too lazy to work or cannot find a job because of their poor education or lack of skills. They mainly rely on their family's support. When they join the Army they feel uncomfortable, show no interest in military training, always cite medical reasons to miss work, and desert their units.

There are many other reasons for troop desertions. The responsibility for desertions lies with the various local authorities, families and military units. At the same time, it is also the responsibility of the entire society. What can be done? How can we introduce efficient measures — especially for military training units — to control, restrict, and eliminate the current level of desertions? We will refer to these issues in our next report.

'Last Part' of Report

BK1406150095 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 13 Jun 95

["Second and last part" of an "investigative report" by Correspondent Ngan Lien: "Why Newly Recruited Troops Still Desert the Army — Causes and Countermeasures"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear friends: In the first part of my investigative report, I presented the fundamental causes of the prevailing problem of troop desertion. In an attempt to discover and present effective measures to limit and finally stop these violations, we recently conducted a concrete investigation in units of the 341st, 968th, and 176th Divisional Groups of the 4th Military Region; the 307th Infantry Group, the H-02 Group, and the 572d Artillery Unit of the 5th Military Region; the 126th Divisional Group of the Sapper Corps; units of the 350th Divisional Group of the 3d Military Region; the Tay Nguyen and Huong Giang Army Corps; and so forth. Through this investigation we learned that, in addition to the main causes we presented in the first part, most of the desertions occurred during the period when military officers still could not remember the names of the newly recruited troops. These desertions also occurred when units had not set up an official table of organization and were about to classify the new recruits for educational, training, and management programs. Many other desertions occurred during the transitional period after the completion of training. Most of the deserters were waiting to transfer from one unit to another or for new assignments after completing their training. It was obvious that those who served in the Army for a short time tended to have the wrong concept of military life and their sense of responsibility was poor; thus, being influenced by circumstances, they come to ignore and violate military discipline.

In recent years some military regions, Army corps and branches, and divisions have gradually closed their training centers for new recruits in an effort to implement the National Defense Ministry's policy of allowing certain units to recruit their own new soldiers and fill their own personnel requirements. For instance, the 341st and 468th Divisional Groups of the 4th Military Region, the 307th and H-02 Groups of the 5th Military Region, the B-25 Group of the Huong Giang Army Corps, and the Dac To Divisional Group of the Tay Nguyen Army Corps, while carrying out troop induction work, also assigned local Army units to recruit, manage, and train troops to meet their own requirements. This creates a high sense of responsibility for Army units that recruit new troops by themselves. Also, the officers of these units clearly know the family conditions and background of new recruits, thereby allowing them to design effective training programs, monitor the development of the new troops, and provide them with the necessary assistance. These are measures that will help enhance the quality of our troops while reducing the desertion rate.

In our investigation, we found some improvements made in this regard by the 101st, 95th, and 203d Regiments of the Huong Giang Army Corps; the 584th Regiment and the B-50 Group of the 3d Military Region; the 126th Group of the Sapper Corps; the 307th and H-02 Groups of the 5th Military Region; and the 968th Divisional Group of the 4th Military Region. In these units, the desertion rate was very low — sometimes even zero — thanks to careful recruitment, efforts to enhance the physical fitness and politico-cultural background of soldiers, and measures to improve training and the spiritual and material life of soldiers. These units have consistently disseminated the Law on Military Service and helped youths to understand their rights and obligations in building and protecting the fatherland, thereby encouraging them to strive to fulfill their duties. On average, each regiment used about 10-15 million dong in each training season to improve the living conditions of the troops. Efforts have also been made to improve the quality of various meals for new combatants in the 126th Group of the Sapper Corps, the Dac To Divisional Group of the Tay Nguyen Army Corps, the 38th and 1st Regiments, and the H-02 Group of the 5th Military Region. Most of these units spent an additional 200- 500 dong to improve the daily meals of each soldier. On average, each month the Dac To Divisional Group spent about 65-70 million dong to improve the quality of meals for its members.

While striving to strengthen recruitment and training of troops and improve the spiritual and material life of soldiers, various units have also organized brotherhood campaigns to promote close ties with various echelons of party committees, the administration, and local people and mass organizations. They have also participated in various social activities while striving to improve the management and training of soldiers.

At the Tay Nguyen Army Corps, we had the chance to attend discussion sessions between soldiers and cadres of the Dac To Divisional Group and the 24th Unit; cadres of Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Quang Ngai, Khanh Hoa, Quang Nam-Danang, Quang Binh, and Thua Thien- Hue Provinces; and so forth. The following is a recording of our talk with Comrade Nguyen Tan Hieu, chairman of the Qui Nhon City People's Committee.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Dear Comrade, you just invited the party organization, people, and mass organizations of Qui Nhon to visit troops at various grass roots units to observe their living conditions and daily activities. What is your comment on such visits?

[Nguyen Tan Hieu] First, I would like to say that we have paid special attention to encouraging the youths to fulfill their military service obligations. We contend that to educate and encourage our youth to join the Army to fulfill their military service and defend the fatherland is the duty of both the party organization and people of Qui Nhon. For this reason, prior to the assignment of troops, we have always sent delegations comprising members of the city party committee, the People's Council and Committee, the city Fatherland Front Committee, and representatives of mass organizations to visit various regiments and observe their daily life and activities. Through these visits, we can say that their barracks are neat and orderly. At each company and battalion there is a traditional house, a movie hall, a library, and other facilities to entertain soldiers. We have paid special attention to educating and training our soldiers while coordinating with various units to train and foster our youth effectively so that they become competent Army soldiers.

[Correspondent] What are your measures, together with various units, to resolve the desertion problem?

[Nguyen Tan Hieu] Regarding desertion, the party and People's Committees of our city have issued a directive providing guidance and measures to help resolve this issue. I think one of the most effective measures is the coordination between echelons of the party committee, the administration, and mass organizations in organizing meetings with families of deserters and even with the deserters themselves to educate them about their military service obligation. We must provide information and educate every youth to understand their sacred obligations in the cause of national defense. We must build the Army into a school that can effectively produce capable men for society while encouraging and mobilizing deserters to return to their units to serve the Army. Our target for 1995 is to mobilize 100 percent of category one deserters to return to their units while doing our best to coordinate with echelons of the party organization, the administration, and mass organizations to fulfill this task. [end recording]

Dear friends, the implementation of various measures designed to reduce and stop desertion in various Army units requires uniform coordination between the local units, localities, families, and the whole society. It requires perseverance to build a firm base at each unit to carry out management work effectively and improve the training of cadres. The above measures are aimed at reducing and eventually stopping the problem of desertion in the various units, thereby contributing to the enhancement our Army's capability in fulfilling its current tasks and duties.

Dac Lac Province Provides Emergency Food Aid

BK1306115395 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 13 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Dac Lac Provincial People's Committee recently decided to distribute emergency starvation relief to needy households living in the four districts of Krong Bong, Krong Kno, Krong Pach, and Krong Ana. These needy households are mainly in the new economic zones from remote areas and former revolutionary bases. In this relief campaign, 18,508 households will receive about 10 kg of rice per person.

This starvation was due to serious floods, which caused the poor summer to fall rice harvest of 1994, and the drought that adversely impacted the winter to spring rice harvest this year. Considerable areas of rice field were totally destroyed.

Radio 'Listener' Condemns Bui Tin

BK1406145995 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 13 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear friends: Mr. Nguyen Van Han, 73, of Nghia Do town in Tu Liem District, Hanoi, is a loyal listener of the Voice of Vietnam radio. Recently, after listening to a number of essays regarding Bui Tin on the Voice of Vietnam radio, he visited the current affairs editors section and asked for the opportunity to express his views about this despicable traitor:

I write this letter after listening to the Voice of Vietnam radio program at 0630 on 8 June in which an essayist criticized the betrayal and distortion of the truth by Bui Tin, aimed at smearing our party and people on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the liberation of the south and the unification of the country. Bui Tin has actually been used by overseas reactionaries many times in such filthy and shameless activities.

I happen to know that Elder Bui Bang Doan, Bui Tin's father, was a member of the former mandarinate who was always concerned for the people. That is why, following the August 1945 Revolution he responded to the call of the party and President Ho Chi Minh, eagerly participated in the administration, and contributed the later years of his life to serving the people. His contribution was appreciated by the party and people as well as President Ho Chi Minh.

Born in such a family, Bui Tin should have been taught the principles of morality, obligation, benevolence, and righteousness and become a worthy human being capable of maintaining his family's tradition of loving the country and people. Furthermore, as he grew up he was nurtured and guided by the party and the Army. He was entrusted with positions worthy of his ability. With his level of knowledge, Bui Tin should understand the high price our party and people had to pay for national independence and unification. The hardheaded and violent imperialists and reactionaries who are Bui Tin's patrons were disgracefully chased out of our country.

Our party and people are now carrying out a successful economic renovation. Our people feel encouraged and proud. All of our friends and other progressive people are filled with delight and admiration. This year, on the occasion of the important national holidays, our people from north to south as well as patriotic overseas Vietnamese are firmly encouraged and determined to follow the party and government in the undertaking to turn our beloved country, which is rich in talent and energy, into a new Asian dragon on the threshold of the 21st century, just as many international specialists have predicted.

Why, then, did Bui Tin dare to act as a puppet for overseas reactionaries by distorting history with the bad intention of smearing our party and people? I think it is because Bui Tin is arrogant and has been made insane and impudent by his dissatisfaction. Had Elder Bui Bang Doan still been alive, he would have pointed his finger at Bui Tin in frustration and said: Bui Tin, you have forgotten all my teachings about love and gratitude for your country and family. You have become disloyal to the country and impious to the family. If you do not repent your sinful activities now, one day you will have to leave your rotten bones in foreign soil forever. You will never join me in our fatherland.

TAP CHI CONG SAN

TAP CHI CONG SAN for February 1995

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TAP CHI CONG SAN Conference, Nguyen Duc Binh Attends and Expresses Views

953E0014B Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Feb 95 pp 28-30

[Article by P.V. (Reporter)]

[FBIS Translated Text] On the morning of 13 January 1995 in Hanoi, the editorial staff of TAP CHI CONG SAN organized a meeting with contributors (northern zone). Those attending the meeting included Nguyen Duc Binh, a member of the Politburo and and secretary of Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee, Ha Dang, a member of the CPV Central Committee and head of the Ideology and Culture Department of the Central Committee, Tran Hong Quan, the minister of Education and Training, Nguyen Duy Quy, the director of the National Center for Social Sciences and Humanities, Phan Quang, the secretary general of the Vietnam Press Association, many leaders from a number of departments, ministries, sectors, theoretical research organizations, newspapers, and journals, and almost 200 of the journal's contributors.

Nguyen Phu Trong, a member of the CPV Central Committee and the editor in chief of TAP CHI CONG SAN, gave a report on the work situation in 1994 and the journal's 1995 editorial guidelines. He welcomed and sincerely thanked the contributors and his co-workers for their articles and contributions to building the journal. He emphasized that in 1994, the most striking thing was that the journal constantly improved its quality and increased its circulation (from 42,000 to 47,000). It went deeply into clarifying a number of basic theoretical issues of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh thought, and it presented and clarified the party's viewpoints on socialism and the path to socialism in our country. At the same time, it criticized erroneous ideas and corrected deviate views. The journal used many pages to propagandize the contents of the resolution of the Midterm National Party Conference of Delegates, the resolution of the 7th Plenum of the CPV Central Committee, and the major policies and positions of the party and state. At the same time, it contributed to studying and proposing solutions for those positions and policies. In particular, the journal published a series of theoretical and practical articles on industrialization, modernization, culture, literature and the arts, security, and national defense. Commemorating the major anniversaries during the year, the journal published a number of articles that reviewed things in depth, particularly concerning the people's war line and all-people's national defense. The articles on the localities strove to have their own coloring. A number of articles had relatively timely comments (on both domestic and international issues).

The editor in chief also pointed out the limitations and shortcomings of the journal. Many of the articles were too "tame" and lacked depth. The theoretical contents of a number of articles were not as profound as we would have wished. Only a few articles investigated things in depth in line with the standards of the journal. There were few articles that strove to oppose corruption, negative aspects, and social evils.

As for the journal's 1995 editorial guidelines, the editor in chief said that the journal will continue to go deeply into basic and vital theoretical problems that must be solved. The journal will propagandize and explain the major ideological and theoretical guidelines and the viewpoints on building the state and reforming state administration as stated in the resolution of the 8th Plenum of the CPV Central Committee. It will contribute to preparing a theoretical and practical basis in preparation for the 8th Party Congress. It will strive to satisfy the requirements in spreading propaganda for the major anniversaries in 1995, improve its combat nature, criticize erroneous views and ideas, and oppose corruption, smuggling, and other social evils.

Those attending the conference expressed approval of the report by the editorial staff and applauded the journal's efforts to renovate its contents and form. What is very heartening is that the journal's circulation nationwide has increased. A number of people stressed that given the journal's present tendency, it is still a loyal friend of readers and a valuable forum for researchers and those who teach theory.

According to many people, the articles appearing in the journal kept up with events, concentrated on the important themes, and had an orientation with little "grit." Articles analyzed things in depth, presenting many valuable materials and providing a new way of looking at and evaluating things. The articles did not try to avoid the thorny issues. Examples are the issue of a socialist orientation, the issues of growth and development and social fairness, the relationship between the economy and society, and the struggle to promptly correct erroneous and deviate viewpoints. The journal had a concept of reviewing practices and reflecting the good examples in the renovation movement in the localities.

A number of people suggested that the journal should give more emphasis to review-type articles (including historical reviews), highly theoretical articles, and articles that reinforce the theoretical system (particularly economics and party history). Attention should be given to exploiting the national traditions and the party's tradition of fierce struggle. There should be more articles on moral education, the Vietnamese way of life, and the socialist way of life. There should also be more articles on the struggle against corruption, smuggling, a pragmatic life with everything done for the sake of money, and other negative phenomena and articles that contribute to defending the party and system.

As for form, a number of people said that the journal must continue to make improvements in order to attract more readers. Some said that the type should be changed (the letters are too small). Articles should be shorter, and there should be pictures and illustrations and short features (like "Ideological Life").

Everyone expressed confidence that with the achievements scored last year, with the journal's great experience, and with a large rank of contributors, in 1995, a year of great significance (the approach of the 8th Party Congress, the opening of the 8th Plenum of the CPV Central Committee, 7th Term, and a year with many important anniversaries), TAP CHI CONG SAN will certainly continue to complete the tasks assigned it, be worthy of being the ideological banner of the party, and satisfy the desires of readers.

After listening to the views of a number of contributors, Nguyen Duc Binh gave his views. Expressing the efforts made by the journal last year, he said that "the journal has made encouraging advances. This progress is manifested most clearly by the fact that circulation has increased well." He said that an attempt must be made to understand the reasons. "Is the journal now more attractive to readers because the quality of the contents has been improved? Is it because the issues discussed in the journal have satisfied the needs of readers, that is, that the journal has issues in which readers are interested? This can be seen by examining the journal's general table of contents for the year. The articles appearing in the journal in 1994 were quite varied, with many different topics discussed. There were articles on the basic theoretical issues of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought and articles criticizing erroneous views and ideas. There were articles explaining the viewpoints of the party, articles on socialism and the path to socialism, research articles, and articles that clarified the issues in the resolutions of the Midterm National Party Conference of Delegates and the 7th Plenum of the CPV Central Committee on industrializing and modernizing the country. There were also articles on the major anniversaries such as the 40th anniversary of the victory at Dien Bien Phu, the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the capital, and the 50th anniversary of the founding of the army, articles that discussed political issues, and articles that studied international issues. There were investigative articles and articles that reviewed practices (positive and negative) in the units, localities, areas, regions, and various spheres of activities.

"In summary, there were many varied articles that dealt with the lines, viewpoints, and resolutions of the party, with the important problems in ideological and theoretical life, and with burning practical problems.

"The progress made by the journal is also manifested by the fact that the articles are of greater quality, and the theoretical, ideological, and combat nature of the articles has improved as compared with previous years."

However, we cannot be satisfied with the progress made, because the articles appearing in the journal still have many limitations: "They are limited in terms of the depth of analysis, review of practices, theoretical standards, persuasive power, and proposals concerning policies and solutions."

Talking with contributors and those who write articles for the journal, Nguyen Duc Binh said that "the journal provides us with an image of ourselves. That is, the power of our writing and our ability to think is reflected in the pages of the journal. Furthermore, it can be said that the journal reflects the general theoretical standards of all party cadres. Thus, we must make observations and engage in self-criticism in order to manifest the strengths and overcome the shortcomings and together strive to make the journal better in 1995 than it was in 1994."

Concerning articles written for the journal in 1995, Nguyen Duc Binh emphasized a number of important issues:

1. The journal must publish more research articles on issues in the resolution of the 8th Plenum of the CPV Central Committee, that is, on the state and administrative reform, and on the issues in the Politburo resolution on the major directions in ideological and theoretical work.

2. It must contribute to preparing for the 8th Congress. In particular, it must clarify the issues in the program and the complex theoretical and practical issues mentioned in the resolution of the 8th Plenum of the CPV Central Committee. For example:

On the basic theoretical issues of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought. To commemorate the anniversary of Lenin's birthday and link this to the practical tasks of our country's revolution, the journal should publish articles reviewing Lenin's ideas on the matter of "the state." Lenin's legacy on this issue is very rich and very important. Such issues concern the nature of the state, the operating practices of new-style state organizations, how a state should be organized in order to avoid becoming bureaucratic and unwieldy, and the relationship between the party and the state and between the central echelon and the localities. Other issues are democratic centralism, the use of forms of state capitalism, the transition to socialism, and so on.

Regarding Ho Chi Minh Thought, much attention is given to the issue of the state. This is a very rich and profound sphere in the ideological legacy of Ho Chi Minh.

A very practical and also very theoretical question that has not been fully answered is the question of how to industrialize and modernize the country. The journal should go more deeply into this.

The issue of determining a socialist orientation must be clarified in articles that review things from both a theoretical and practical standpoint. How should socialist guidelines be set? How should these be viewed in the economic, political, social, and cultural spheres? How should socialist guidelines be set in a multifaceted economy, a state economy, and a cooperative economy? Why are there still problems concerning stock holding and privatization? What is fair? What about social divisions and views on social divisions?

How can the economy be developed without "sacrificing" culture? Culture is both a target and the motive force of economic growth, and it must regulate growth and social progress. There are many problems in arts and letters. The recent debates in this sphere have been necessary and quite interesting. The journal should publish appropriate, reliable, and persuasive review articles.

3. The journal must strive to go deeply into and participate in reviewing practices. Contributing to preparing for the 8th Congress requires reviewing practices. In order to clarify the issues of the 7th and 8th Plenums of the CPV Central Committee also requires that practices be reviewed. In order to clarify the theoretical issues in the renovation viewpoints, much attention must be given reviewing things based on reality. To make proposals, things must be reviewed based on reality. The major anniversaries provide a good opportunity, but they also pose major requirements with respect to reviewing practices. The 50th anniversary, 50 years of the new Vietnam, the Vietnam of the Ho Chi Minh era, provides a good opportunity. At the same time, this is a great challenge for reviewing practices. There have been lessons on building a state regime of the people, by the people, and for the people, on the party in power, on coordinating the two strategic tasks, on making generalizations concerning tying national independence to socialism, on the revolution as creative and the people as the root, on coordinating the nation's strengths with the strengths of the present period, and so on.

In summary, in the economic, political, cultural, and social spheres, there must be a number of detailed articles that are naturally related to the meaning of the important anniversaries in the year. Doing this well will help prepare for the 8th Party Congress.

On behalf of the editorial staff and his fellow workers, Nguyen Phu Trong thanked Nguyen Duc Binh and promised the CPV Central Committee that he will strive to complete the tasks well and enable the journal to become "better and better" as recommended by Nguyen Duc Binh.

Ideological Work With Respect to Cadres, Party Members, and Overseas Vietnamese

953E0014C Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Feb 95 pp 33-37

[Article by Pham Ngoc Giao, acting secretary of the Overseas Party Affairs Committee]

[FBIS Translated Text] Today, we have hundreds of thousands of cadres, party members, and laborers working and studying abroad. Of these, 19,000 are party members (2,100 work for representative organizations, 2,200 are postgraduate students and trainees, 800 are specialists, and so on). These forces are one of the country's valuable resources. If we can mobilize, organize, motivate, educate, and look after them well, they will be a source of strength that will make positive contributions to industrialization and modernization and, together with the people of the country, strive to hit the target of a prosperous people, strong country, and fair and civilized society.

In recent years, the fact that a number of communist parties in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union have lost power and the fact that socialism in those countries has collapsed has had a great effect on the thinking and emotions of Vietnamese cadres, party members, and workers living abroad, particularly those living in those countries. There have been many ideological shifts and fights in those places. The enemy forces have used this opportunity and put forth many arguments in the hope of corrupting the ideas of the overseas Vietnamese. They have joyfully spread stories about the "demise" of communism and said that socialism is the monster of the century and that "the Soviet Union, which was the bulwark of socialism, has collapsed and that the remaining socialist countries will, therefore, collapse sooner or later." They have accused communists of being cruel and barbaric.

Encouraged and aided by enemy forces, a number of overseas Vietnamese have exhibited counterrevolutionary and opportunistic tendencies and shown themselves to be naive and gullible. A number of newspapers with evil and distorted contents that oppose our people's revolution have appeared. They include DIEN DAN PRAHA, DIEM TIN BAO CHI, CANH EN, TONG HOP, TIENG NOI, and LUA AM. Added to the other channels of imperialist information, these newspapers have attacked the views of our party members and people. A number of the newspapers published by a few Vietnamese living in the (former) Soviet Union and Eastern Europe and other publications containing reactionary contents opposing Vietnam that are printed in the United States and other Western countries have been sent to many Vietnamese "for free." These spread propaganda about political pluralism and opposition parties and say that "only by having many parties will it be possible to destroy the 'monopoly' of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] and that only by having many parties will it be possible to have democracy." They demand that we repeal Article 4 of the Constitution on the leadership rights of the CPV. They have printed ambiguous stories about the leaders of our party and used all sorts of tricks and looked for ways to speak ill of and tarnish the reputation of President Ho. Everything that they do is aimed at eroding the confidence of our cadres, party members, and people in the party, causing confusion, and making it difficult for people to distinguish right from left and white from black. They want to foster distrust, selfishness, and national extremism and divide and create hostility among communists. They are trying to make people lose their sense of direction and lose faith in the revolutionary path chosen by the party and President Ho.

Stated objectively, during the initial period, the attacks made by the enemy had very terrible consequences. A number of people lost their sense of political direction, gave up, and looked for a place of "refuge" in order to look for happiness and avoid being involved when socialism in Vietnam collapsed. Some people praised capitalism, seeing only the positive aspects and ignoring its incurable diseases. Some people thought that socialism in Vietnam was on the verge of collapse. Some party members who worked as specialists and some postgraduate students and laborers "braved the dangers" by abandoning the party and calculating their next step so that if the CPV lost its leadership role, they could become people without a party. Because they lacked resolve, some cadres and party members wavered and "changed colors" in order to fit in and survive.

But there has been no collapse as hoped for by the enemy. Recently, the ideological situation among Vietnamese workers and students abroad has changed for the better. The main reason for this is that the renovation line of the party has begun to achieve important economic, political, social, and diplomatic results. These achievements have had a positive effect on and motivated the Vietnamese cadres, party members, and people living abroad. Not only have they heard about and seen the fruits of the renovation movement, but they have also enjoyed the fruits of this movement.

On the other hand, life in Eastern Europe and the (former) Soviet Union has roused many people. Each day, they have seen the decay and turmoil, the bitterness, and even the spilling of blood on land that was formerly socialist. This has enabled them to see more clearly the correct lines and strong political capabilities of our party.

Along with this, it must be said that the party and state have promptly implemented suitable positions and policies with respect to overseas Vietnamese in general and party members and cadres working and studying abroad in particular. One of the policies is to protect the legitimate rights of overseas Vietnamese based on respecting the laws of the host country, Vietnamese laws, and international law. The party and state advocate having "patriotic Vietnamese" make an effort to build a strong, prosperous, just, and civilized country even though they may have religious and ethnic differences, come from different economic backgrounds, and even hold different political views. The CPV Central Committee and the government have put forth many concrete policies in accord with the situation and satisfied some of the aspirations of overseas Vietnamese such as creating a legal basis for them to live and work, helping them understand the situation in the country, implementing policies to encourage people to invest, and expanding business and services in the country. At the same time, favorable conditions have been created for people in the country to study abroad if they have the desire and capabilities and if they are accepted by another country or a relative stands guarantee. The state is regulating the incomes of laborers and specialists in a more rational way in order to encourage laborers and to ensure revenues for the state.

Another very important reason is that the party Foreign Affairs Committee has coordinated things closely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and sectors concerned in constantly monitoring the situation, filing timely reports, and recommending positions and policies to the party and state to satisfy the needs of the party members and masses. The overseas party chapters and party organizations have made a great effort. Even through they have faced countless difficulties and been far from the guidance of the central echelon and even though the enemy has constantly launched attacks, our comrades have stood firm. The party committee echelons have constantly played their support role. Information on the situation in the country has been provided weekly and sometimes daily. Even though the conditions have been difficult, the large party organizations have published news letters and magazines and sent them to the bases. A number of places have used parabolic antenna to receive the daily broadcasts of Vietnam television and sent tapes to the bases. On behalf of the groups in the country that are off working, the chapter committees, party committees, and heads of the organizations have frequently organized talks and provided information on the situation at home and in the country. On holidays, various places have organized meetings to express intense feelings for the homeland. A number of places have invited many groups of well-known singers and artists to come give performances. These activities are usually attended by many people and usually have rather good ideological and emotional results.

However, with respect to the cadres, party members, and other Vietnamese living abroad, ideological work still has many shortcomings and weaknesses that must be overcome.

With the correct and open foreign affairs lines and policies of the party and state, more and more cadres, party members, and Vietnamese in general will go abroad to work and study. Because of this, in my view, with respect to ideological work regarding cadres, party members, and other Vietnamese living abroad, the following tasks must be carried out well:

1. An effort must be made to continue solidifying the confidence of the party members and masses in the renovation of the country under the leadership of the CPV.

An important task is to disseminate widely the lines, positions, and policies of the party and state so that each person has a thorough understanding and implements them. More attention must be given to educating people about national traditions, revolutionary traditions, and Ho Chi Minh Thought on the occasion of the important holidays in 1995. The quality of the information and propaganda work among overseas Vietnamese must be improved. The state must equip our representative organizations abroad and install parabolic antennas so that they can receive the daily broadcasts of Vietnam Television. In the present information explosion, we cannot allow geographical distance to create information gaps. If there are gaps in our information, the enemy and bad elements will immediately fill those gaps with distorted information. The large party organizations must continue to improve and perfect the news bulletins and publications sent to the bases. At the same time, they must exploit the potential of each organization and individual even better in cultural and arts and letters activities and wholesome recreational activities and enrich the spiritual lives of the overseas Vietnamese. Based on carrying out the ideological and information work well, spreading propaganda, and educating and mobilizing people, the spirit of civic responsibility of each person must be elevated, and they must be encouraged, based on their capabilities and the conditions, to contribute to building the country.

2. Ideological work must be tied closely to the renovation and reorganization of the party.

Above all, the party chapters at the representative organizations must be solidified even further. Decision No 91-QD/TW dated 22 October 1994 of the Secretariat of the CPV Central Committee on the functions and tasks of overseas representative organization party chapters must be understood thoroughly and implemented strictly. In this, steps must be taken to clarify the core political role of the representative organization party organizations in leading the cadres, workers, and civil servants in implementing the lines and policies of the party and the laws of the state. They must participate in formulating and implementing and tasks of the organizations, build pure and strong party chapters, and do a good job in mobilizing the masses in the organizations and the Vietnamese in the host country.

Attention must be given to solidifying the foreign students, specialists, workers, and businessmen party chapters. Things must be carried out in a very flexible manner in organizing things in accord with the changes in the situation and in accord with the living conditions and the activities of each unit and community. Steps must be taken to elevate the responsibility of the party base organizations in controlling, educating, and training the party members, and there must soon be specific stipulations for party members engaged in separate activities. There must be suitable stipulations on activities for party members who do not have any political tasks, such as people who have accompanied their husband or wife. Steps must be taken to elevate the responsibility of the party committee echelons and party members, including party members who serve as heads of organizations, in the struggle to maintain internal solidarity and oppose corruption and negative aspects. Abroad, even more attention must be given to protecting internal politics. Those party members who do a good job and score achievements must be encouraged and commended immediately. If someone commits a serious violation, he or she must be disciplined. More attention must be given to developing new party members.

3. There must be solidarity among the great family of Vietnamese nationalities, and an effort must be made to hit the target of having a prosperous people, strong country, and just and civilized society.

The party committee echelons and all cadres and party members must actively implement Politburo Resolution 08-NQ/TW dated 29 November 1993 on policies and activities with respect to overseas Vietnamese. Those living in the (former) Soviet Union and Eastern Europe must be assembled in many different organizations such as associations of fellow countrymen, youth associations, student associations, and commercial and business associations. These must have a variety of forms and be in accord with the laws of the host country. The party base organizations must maintain leadership with respect to the masses. They must be assembled and educated through carrying on educational activities, protecting their legitimate rights, and maintaining their safety. Attention must be given to strengthening these people, particularly the youths, with respect to patriotism, national traditions, love of family and homeland, a wholesome life, solidarity, and mutual aid and protection.

As for the many overseas Vietnamese who have been living abroad for a long time, the positions and policies of the party and state must be implemented correctly: Vietnamese living abroad are an inseparable part of the Vietnamese national community; all Vietnamese, regardless of who they are, if they are patriotic and want to hit the target of national independence, a prosperous people, strong country, and just and civilized country, have a place in the great mass of national solidarity. The potential of our overseas compatriots must be exploited to contribute to the industrialization and modernization of the country. The legitimate and legal rights of these people must be protected, they must be helped to improve their concept of community and solidarity, and they must be given help in stabilizing and improving their lives, maintaining the national culture and Vietnamese values, respecting the laws of the host country, and becoming an integral part of the host society. Overseas Vietnamese must be helped to understand the country and have a close attachment to the country. Through these people, friendly and cooperative relations must be expanded between the people and government of Vietnam and the people and government of the host country. Solidarity with the overseas Vietnamese must be voluntary and must be in accord with the laws, customs, and practices of the host country.

It is the state management organizations that are responsible for carrying out the above tasks. But party base organizations and party members must be clear about the fact that wherever there are party organizations, those party organizations and party members have a duty to educate, mobilize, and establish close ties to the Vietnamese. Party organizations and party members must contribute, together with the government, Committee on Overseas Vietnamese, and our country's representative organizations abroad, to creating a good relationship with these people and spreading propaganda and implementing the positions and policies of the party and state on overseas Vietnamese. Carrying out specific tasks is the responsibility of specialists. But the great majority of those specialists are party members. Thus, if each cadre and party member has a concept of this work and improves his spirit of responsibility to the masses, the quality of the work will certainly be better.

4. Steps must be taken to establish friendly relations with the people of the host country.

In the past, because we have done a good job in establishing friendly relations, we have created an integral strength to defeat the enemy. Recently, thanks to doing a good job in this we have contributed to creating a favorable situation to help the country stand firm and grow. Both now and in the future, we must continue to work hard at establishing friendly relations with the peoples and governments of other countries, particularly between Vietnamese and the people in the countries where they are living. This must be viewed as an important factor that is closely tied to each person, to each group of people, and to the entire Vietnamese community living abroad. If our people create understanding, sympathetic feelings, trust, and friendly relations among the authorities and citizens of the host countries, their lives will be easier. Thus, each person must manifest the wonderful nature of the Vietnamese people and obey the laws and respect the customs and practices of the host country. In carrying out specific tasks, it must be ensured that both sides benefit and that the interests of others are not encroached on. Steps must be taken to get the people of the host country to understand Vietnam and the Vietnamese people and to get them to have greater sympathy for us.

5. We must continue to struggle to defeat the plots and "peaceful evolution" movement of the enemy forces.

The enemy has openly asserted that overseas Vietnamese are one of their main targets in implementing their "peaceful evolution" strategy. Their target is to separate the people from the party. Thus, party chapters and party organizations must strengthen the education given to party members and the masses, heighten their vigilance, not fall prey to enemy plots, and not participate in activities organized by evil elements that oppose our country's renovation movement. The situation must be monitored closely, and an active struggle must be waged using suitable forms in order to defeat the enemy's plots to distort and slander our people's revolution. The struggle must be waged under the sign of "democracy" and "human rights," which is what the enemy uses to interfere in our internal affairs. In diplomatic relations, cadres and party members must always maintain revolutionary vigilance, protect national secrets, defend the party, resolutely implement the stipulations on controlling party members living abroad, and protect the interior and the representative organizations.

Along with the great achievements being scored in the renovation movement under the party's leadership, carrying out the above tasks well will certainly have a positive effect with respect to the thinking of cadres, party members, and Vietnamese living abroad.

Thoughts on the Image of Communists in Literature

953E0014D Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Feb 95 pp 38-40, 56

[Article by Le Mai]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Passage omitted] After 1975, the country entered a new historical stage. Following our great triumph, we were confronted by countless difficulties in ordinary life and had to deal with the terrible effects of the war. This new situation naturally requires a new ordering of values. More than anyone, in this "transitional" stage, writers must have a broad view and "penetrate human emotions" in order to discover the deep currents beneath the unexpected events and minutiae of ordinary life. After leading the two resistances to win independence and reunify the country, communists are now carrying a much more difficult historical burden, the burden of building a new life. In searching for things, obstacles have been encountered, painful defeats have been suffered, and a heavy price has been paid for the mistakes. But the problem is, with a spirit of the revolutionary offensive, Vietnamese communists have become involved in a new fight that is just as fierce as that during the stage of the national democratic revolution. After several years of renovation, it can be affirmed that the country has overcome poverty. Communists and the people have scored achievements that are recognized by friends far and near.

Unfortunately, in a number of literary works, the above has not been accurately reflected. To the contrary. Life as reflected in the pages of these works is dull and gloomy. The image of communists is distorted. Some writers view the recent war as a cause of "grief" that they will carry forever. Little attention is given to the losses suffered by and the sacrifices made by our soldiers and people. Instead, these are obscured in the limitless fog of what is just and what is unjust. Occasionally, communists are portrayed as heartless and violent people or as people who simply live in the certainty of mythical and outmoded values as in *Mien Hoang Tuong* [*Mythical Land*]. In her novels *Nhung Thien Duong Mu* [*Paradise of the Blind*] (1989) and *Vo De* [*Novel Without a Title*] (1994), Duong Thu Huong insulted history with an indignant attitude of opposition and the style of a novice. The war as seen by this writer was a disaster, and the fates of those who participated in the war are just distorted shapes. They were intimidated. Communists are "robots," rigid people without morals. Because they are not at ease with reality, some writers have expressed repressed grievances in their works and turned their writing into minor works with little persuasive power, portraying communists only as cruel and barbaric. Several years ago, an inexpensive publication, *Noi Loan* [*Rebellion*] (by Dao Hieu), became a hit but not for literary reasons. This work, which contained pornographic scenes, distorted and degraded the behavior of revolutionary cadres and compared them to the "beloved" character of puppet officers.

Even though there are few such works in present literary life, we must be on guard. We cannot allow a few people to reject the past and, in the name of "literature," distort communism and smear communists and the Communist Party. Through literary works, literature in the renovation period must not only continue the literary attacks of the difficult and heroic years but also discover new features about the character of communists in the present historical situation.

What are the reasons for the above worrisome phenomena? In my view, there are at least three reasons. First, writers do not yet understand the nature of today's complex life. When they put pen to paper, they view life through different phenomena and regard those outward appearances as representative of the internal structure. If writers do not learn that the movements of people are constantly being adjusted and changed in keeping with the demands of the age and instead see only base images, disease, and evil, dredge up only what is bad, and fail to see the forest for the trees, they will naturally have a one-sided and mistaken viewpoint. Second, their critical inspiration has not been put in the right place. The lesson of literary instructors of the past was that in order to criticize something, writers must stand at the peak of humanism. The goal of criticism is not just egotistical criticism. The essential thing is that criticism must be aimed at affirming what is new and progressive. Naturally, the realities of life form the basis for artistic creativity. But works written under the light of reality are always tied to the intelligence, talent, and awareness of each writer. Third, in a very few cases, because of hostility toward the system, writers have made an effort to destroy the revolution. Their writings have intentionally opposed the interests of the people and country and opposed the wishes of the great majority of people.

In the first and second situations, readers may understand and sympathize with the writers and remind them that they must be more vigilant and show more talent in this very creative sphere. In the third case, society must resolutely struggle to expose their evil plots as well as the plots of those hateful people behind them.

In life today, there are many cadres and party members who once showed great bravery in the face of the enemy but who have now lost their way in the face of the charms of money and degenerate pleasures. For the sake of personal interests, many party members have turned away from the masses, violated the law, and even committed crimes. Our literature has a responsibility to criticize these negative actions and the negative characters hidden behind the name "party member," because these people are destroying the prestige of the party. Criticism must be leveled in order to protect the prestige and affirm the role of real communists.

After years of sweating and bleeding along with the people and deriving their strength from the people, communists still measure things based on the ideals of national independence and socialism. These are the ideals that our people have pursued for more than half a century. Under those wonderful ideals, we have scored many achievements and overcome many of the challenges of history. Today, there are signs that our country is moving forward. The revolution is the task of the masses. But life still needs the hands, minds, and spirit of communists who are willing to make sacrifices. Finding new and wonderful features, discovering the creative potential and great capabilities of those who can forget themselves for the sake of the fatherland and for socialism, and creating communist characters for the renovation period are requirements. This is the responsibility of Vietnamese writers today.

Symposium on Continuing To Renovate and Reorganize the Party Base Organizations at the Subward and Town Levels

953E0014E Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Feb 95 p 62

[Article by Vu Lan]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 26 and 27 December 1994, the Hanoi Municipal Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Committee held a conference on continuing to renovate and reorganize the party organizations in the subwards and towns subordinate to Hanoi. Pham The Duyen, a member of the Politburo and secretary of the municipal CPV committee, and Le Xuan Tung, a member of the CPV Central Committee and deputy secretary of the Standing Committee of the municipal CPV committee, presided at the conference. Those attending the conference included the secretaries and chairmen of the people's committees, the heads of the organization committees of the ward and town CPV committees, party committee secretaries, and chairmen of the subward and town people's committees. In particular, Secretary General Do Muoi attended and gave a speech at the conference.

Hanoi now has 84 subwards with 1,716 party chapters and 37,656 party members, of whom 91 percent have retired because of age or poor health. During the past 2 years, the party committee echelons in the subwards and towns of Hanoi have completed Stage 1 in implementing the resolution of the 3d Plenum of the CPV Central Committee. During the past 6 months, the subward party organizations have concentrated on a number of important tasks and continued to renovate and reorganize the party. The purpose of this conference was to evaluate the initial results, exchange opinions, gain experience, and propose solutions in order to effectively implement the four main themes: subward and town party organizations leading the work of carrying out the economic and social tasks; the organization and tasks of the street party chapters; the assignment of tasks to party members; and the development of party members in the streets.

On subward and town party organizations leading the work of carrying out the economic and social tasks: Almost all of those who spoke at the conference agreed that this is an objective requirement and an important task of the party organizations in the subwards and towns. However, many people mentioned the difficulties and the differences between the requirements of the tasks assigned and the real powers and abilities of the party committee echelons in the subwards and towns. Today, there are many units of various economic types, and many control echelons are carrying on operations and are based in the subwards and towns. But the subward and town party committees do not have the powers, functions, standards, or capabilities to lead, control, or coordinate the work. Even so, in many subwards and towns, there have been good experiences, good examples, and methods that have achieved good results in providing economic and social leadership. Those at the conference agreed on a number of main issues:

Through the subward authorities, the subward and town party committees must lead, control, and guide the people in developing and expanding production, business, and services. They must participate actively and coordinate things with the sectors and echelons in order to manage and control the production, commercial, and service units and organizations of the central echelon, cities, and wards that are headquartered in and operate in the subwards and towns.

The subward and town party committees must put forth economic and social policies and tasks and provide leadership in carrying out these tasks in their area of responsibility. Specifically, plans must be formulated to coordinate things with the units concerned in order to grasp the situation at the economic elements operating in the area. The lives and work of the households must be understood. Based on the resolutions of higher echelons and on the reports by the subward people's committees, the party committees must discuss matters and issue resolutions on guidelines, targets, plans, and primary measures in order to carry on economic and social development in the area. The party committees must control the implementation of the resolutions through the authorities, mass organizations, social organizations, party chapters, and party members.

On the organization and tasks of the street party chapters: There were many different views on the name, organizational form, and tasks of the street party chapters. Many people disagreed with the name neighborhood cell party chapter, because there are neighborhood cells that do not have enough party members to form a party chapter while many neighborhood cells have two-three party chapters. A number of representatives said that it isn't necessary for each neighborhood cell to have a party chapter. Depending on the number of party members, a corresponding number of party chapters can be formed. A neighborhood cell can form two or three party chapters. Conversely, two or three neighborhood cells may form just one party chapter. The name neighborhood cell party chapter ties the party to the people. Many representatives proposed using the name "street party chapter." As for organization, many people suggested using just one party model in the subwards consisting of two echelons: subward party organizations and party chapters. A few people said that there must be three echelons: subward party organizations, element (community) party organizations, and party chapters. A number of people wanted to form work committees to coordinate the activities among the party chapters. Many representatives said that the present tasks of the street party chapters are too heavy. Based on the various ideas presented, the conference decided to temporarily name the party chapters in the subwards "street party chapters." These party chapters should be organized based on the neighborhood cells. Each party chapter should have fewer than 30 party members (not counting those party members exempt from activities). If a neighborhood cell has more than 30 party members, depending on the situation, requirements, and tasks, two or three party chapters can be formed. The subward party committees must put a member of the party committee in charge to control the work of these party chapters. The task of the street party chapters is to resolutely implement Decision 52 QD/TW of the Secretariat of the CPV Central Committee and Program 14 of the municipal CPV committee. They must use the contents of this decision and program in accord with the specific situation and conditions of their party chapter.

On assigning tasks to party members: At present, about 40 percent of the party members in the subwards and towns of Hanoi have not been assigned tasks. A number of people said that cadres who have retired because of age or health should also retire from party work, because if they are assigned tasks, it will be difficult for them to complete the work. But many representatives mentioned the advantages in assigning work to party members and affirmed that if a person has been a party member, even if he has retired from technical work, if his health is good enough and the conditions are favorable, that person cannot retire from party work. Those at the conference unanimously agreed that all party members who are engaged in regular party activities and who are in good enough health must accept specific tasks. Our party does not have "retired party members" or "retired party chapters." Tasks can be assigned to party members, or a group of party members can be assigned to carry out a particular task. In general, the work contents can be classified into three categories: party building, tasks of the authorities and specialists, and tasks of the mass organizations and social organizations. The main work forms are: tasks headed by someone (neighborhood cell leaders and deputy leaders), particular tasks and unexpected tasks, being responsible for an address or a number of households, and collaborators based on the requirements of the organizations and units from the central echelon to the primary level.

On party member development in the streets: Those at the conference affirmed that in the past period, although a number of results have been achieved, in general, this work has not been given enough attention. Almost all of the new party members recruited in the subwards are cadres who hold positions. Because of this, besides the targets on the state rolls, the party committee echelons must switch the center of party development to targets in the streets, particularly youths.

To do this, the party committee echelons and party members must give much attention to mobilizing the masses, launching a revolutionary movement, educating people, and strengthening the positive factors in order to expand the party. The mass organizations in the subwards and towns must be solidified and expanded in order to get the targets to participate in the activities in the revolutionary movement.

In his speech at the conference, Do Muoi affirmed the very important role of the party base organizations, which includes the subward and town party organizations. He reminded the street party chapters that they must concentrate, together with the authorities and people, on solving specific problems concerning living conditions, the welfare of the people, and charitable movements, help the families that are encountering difficulties, look after and educate the youths, and so on. In addition to adhering firmly to and implementing the lines and policies of the party and the laws of the state, each party member must mobilize others to carry out the tasks and create vigorous revolutionary movements at the bases and in the party chapters.

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Australia

Reaction to French Nuclear Test Plans Reported

Government Reaction Cited

BK1506080895 Hong Kong AFP in English 0714 GMT 15 Jun 95

[Report by Richard Breeze]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sydney, June 14 (AFP) — The Australian government's measured response to France's resumption of nuclear tests contrasts with strident public reaction and caused concern Thursday in the ruling Labor Party, analysts and party officials said.

Prime Minister Paul Keating said in a statement that he deplored the decision of President Jacques Chirac to resume tests in the South Pacific and froze bilateral defence cooperation at its existing level.

French Ambassador Dominique Girard was summoned to the Senate where stand-in Foreign Minister Bob McMullan registered an Australian protest during what an Australian official described as a "cordial but direct" 30-minute meeting.

In Tokyo, Foreign Minister Gareth Evans tempered his criticism by pointing to Chirac's statement that the series of eight tests would end in May and that France would sign a permanent test ban treaty next year.

Australia's reaction was "appropriately proportionate," Evans said.

Labor Party president Barry Jones said Thursday "there will be a lot of concern" about Evans' remarks "within Labor Party branches and no doubt when state (party) conferences are held there'll be resolutions passed about it."

He forecast the majority of views would be more sympathetic to the tougher line taken by New Zealand.

Nuclear issues and French tests in the South Pacific have long been bread-and-butter issues with the party's leftwing factions.

Opposition Liberal Party foreign affairs spokesman Alexander Downer labelled Evans' response "weak and lily livered" and called for a "strong stand against an arrogant French government that doesn't give a damn about us and doesn't give a damn about countries in the Pacific."

Evans' comments are those of a middle-rank power which had a carefully formulated diplomatic stance and which saw no point in angering another country which "will not be influenced by what you have to say anyway," said Michael McKinley of the Australian National University.

Some analysts said Australia risked being upstaged by the stern reaction from New Zealand.

New Zealand Foreign Minister Don McKinnon ordered French ambassador Jacques Le Blanc out of his offices, saying the envoy had offered only "lame excuses."

"The Australian government's reaction is rather muted and right out of sync with the public reaction. The government could be pulled around to make a more strident stand," said Ivan Mulloy, a political specialist at Sydney University.

"Fury" and "outrage" were two terms favoured by headline writers while many newspaper editorials strongly condemned France and people vented anger with faxes to the French Consulate General here and calls to radios.

"It has been a phenomenal response and very, very negative," said Christian Dige, talkback show producer at Sydney radio station 2GB.

The nuclear row came as two years of efforts by both sides to rebuild diplomatic links were starting to bear fruit.

In 1993, Keating had knocked relations askew by blasting the French at Villers Brettoneux — a Somme battlefield — and contrasting Australia's sacrifice in World War I with France's refusal to cut farm subsidies as part of the Uruguay Round of trade talks.

Conclusion of the Uruguay Round last year helped put relations on a new track and during a visit to Paris, Keating — known as a Francophile — struck up a rapport with then president Francois Mitterrand.

One French official noted that seven years ago there were about 80 French concerns either installed or with branches in Australia. "Now there are 200, and they employ about 35,000 to 40,000 people. There's a big move towards improved trade and buisiness links," he said.

Reporting that Australian investments in France were 1.65 billion dollars (1.2 billion US) and French investment in Australia was 2.485 billion, The Australian Financial Review said Keating did not want to jeopardise the relationship.

"The Australian response was carefully modulated to avoid offending France and to avoid any possible disturbance of Australia's growing trade and other links with France," it said.

Keating Announces Regional Protest

BK1506081395 Hong Kong AFP in English 0806 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hobart, Australia, June 15 (AFP) — The South Pacific Forum is to send a delegation to France to protest against its resumption of nuclear tests, Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating said Thursday.

France should listen to the world's condemnation of the restarting of tests in the South Pacific, announced Tuesday by new French President Jacques Chirac, Keating said in a statement issued as current chairman of the 15-nation forum.

The statement expressed forum members' "unequivocal opposition to France's decision."

Keating told the media that Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans would lead a forum delegation to France.

He said that it wanted to tell the French Government that "we think this decision is deplorable and should be desisted from."

A spokesman for the prime minister told AFP that no date for the visit had been fixed and that discussions were underway about the timing with governments of forum-member nations.

"The statements that have been issued by the other nuclear powers and by other countries in Asia and in other parts of the world are welcome," Keating said in his statement.

"Forum leaders hope that France will hear and take note of what the world is saying," he added.

Keating, who was visting the island state of Tasmania, said France's decision on nuclear testing was a major setback to improving relations between Paris and the South Pacific countries.

Chirac said that a series of eight tests would be held starting in September and ending in May next year at the latest.

Pacific Nations Condemn Plans at UN

BK1506071295 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Australia has joined with its South Pacific neighbors in the United Nations to condemn France's decision to resume nuclear testing in the Pacific in September this year. Australia, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa, and the Solomon Islands called on the French Government to reconsider the move as a matter of urgency. The countries said the decision flew in the face of the global trend toward nuclear disarmament.

Cook Islands Prime Minister Sir Geoffrey Henry has sent a letter to the French president, Jacques Chirac, expressing his country's deep disappointment about the decision. Sir Henry said Cook Islands hoped that France would do everything possible to minimize the adverse effects of its decision and cease its testing program at the earliest possible moment.

The former New Zealand prime minister, David Lange, has described the French decision as a calculated act of contrariness to the people of the South Pacific. Mr. Lange says Australia's foreign minister, Gareth Evans, is wrong in playing down concerns about the test because he relies on French assurances.

[Begin Lange recording] Now, history tells us that is a total waste of time. France has signed treaties with New Zealand over the Rainbow Warrior bombers and then ripped them up. France gave its word on the nuclear testing moratorium, and it's about to breach it. You know, it is ... it is calculated on the assumption that you have an honorable, law abiding, promise-proving nation. Anytime you have a totally nationalistic, sublimely independent nation that I simply say you can't trust. [sentence as heard] [end recording]

Protest Delegation To Go to France

LD1506085895 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Australia has announced plans to lead a delegation of South Pacific nations to Paris to protest against the decision by France to resume nuclear testing in the Pacific in September this year. Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating, as chair of the South Pacific Forum, wrote to member nations overnight and they agreed to send the delegation. Mr. Keating says the delegation will send a strong message that the resumption of nuclear testing is deplorable and should not go ahead.

[Begin Keating recording] A willful and regrettable decision and one that will do the French people and the French Government no good. At any rate, we'll be expressing our opinions forthrightly and directly and doing so in the company of South Pacific Forum country representatives, and Foreign Minister Senator Gareth Evans will be leading that delegation. [end recording]

Cook Islands Prime Minister Sir Geoffrey Henry has meanwhile sent a letter to French President Jacques Chirac expressing his country's deep disappointment about the decision to resume nuclear testing. Sir Henry said Cook Islands hoped France would do everything possible to minimize the adverse effects of its decision and cease its testing program at the earliest possible moment.

Exclusion of French Companies Urged

BK1506101395 Hong Kong AFP in English 1000 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sydney, June 15 (AFP) — A centrist political party has called for French companies to be barred from Australian infrastructure contracts as part of protests against resumption of nuclear tests.

The small Democrat party asked the New South Wales state government to exclude a French company from a joint venture responsible for building Sydney's 600 million dollar (432 million US) airport rail link.

French engineering group Bouygues is a 60 percent owner with Transfield in the Airport Link Company which is to build the railine between the international Kingsford Smith Airport and Sydney's Central Station.

The Airport Link Company won the contract in February but some contracts remained to be signed, said Richard Jones, Democrat member of the state's upper house, the Legislative Council.

Jones called on the government to examine withholding signing of the documents and substituting an Australian company for Bouygues.

Another Democrat council member, Lis Kirkby, said outrage over the decision to resume tests in the South Pacific announced by President Jacques Chirac on Tuesday could be turned into something constructive.

"We believe that politicians can in fact turn their outrage into something concrete — a boycott of French involvement in future major public infrastructure projects," she said.

Iran's Maleki Holds Talks With Evans

LD1406131795 Tehran IRNA in English 0953 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 14, IRNA — Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister 'Abbas Maleki and Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans reviewed bilateral cooperation Tuesday. Maleki, currently in Australia to attend a seminar on the Indian Ocean, voiced Iran's readiness to cooperate with the states in the Indian Ocean region.

Referring to the importance of cooperation in the Indian Ocean as well as Iran's decision to promote relations with countries in that region, Maleki said [word indistinct] holds positive views in this respect and is determined to follow up a policy through which academic groups, research organizations and chambers of commerce of various countries could cooperate with each other easily.

Maleki, who is deputy foreign minister for education affairs remarked, "we are interested in promotion of co-operation among member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and Indian Ocean, therefore, we exert utmost efforts in this regard."

Expressing his satisfaction over Iran's participation in the seminar, evans welcomed Iran's proposals. He underlined that academic and research institutions of the said countries can formulate future relations among regional countries. The Australian foreign minister also announced his country's readiness to cooperate with the Islamic Republic of Iran in this area.

Pointing to Iran's pivotal role in the region, he appreciated positive and friendly contribution of the Islamic Republic to the talks.

Leaders Urge Closer Asia-Pacific Military Ties

BK1406084195 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Australia's defense minister has told an international gathering of military personnel that closer relationships between the Defense Force and its Asian counterparts should be encouraged. Senator Robert Ray was today addressing the annual Chief of the General Staff exercise in Brisbane. This includes senior defense personnel from around the world including the United States, Britain, and nations in the Asia-Pacific region.

Senator Ray says armed forces should take an active role in building a community of nations in the Asia-Pacific.

[Begin Ray recording] I am not suggesting any new form of military alliance, neither am I suggesting that countries should completely subsume their national interests for more abstract collective good. Together with other national institutions our forces are well placed to encourage the development of a shared community of security interests — a community of interests aimed squarely at protecting peace and encouraging prosperity. [End recording]

New Zealand

Legistor Snubs French Envoy

BK1506092695 Hong Kong AFP in English 0917 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Wellington, June 15 (AFP) — A backbench government member of parliament told the French ambassador here Thursday that he "bared his backside to France".

MP Brian Neeson told AFP in an interview that "I blew my stack" when he met Ambassador Jacques Le Blanc and figuratively adopted the pose of native Maori radicals who bare their buttocks in grand insults.

"I said to the ambassador that I turned my backside to France and in particular those who framed this policy, and I said to Mr Le Blanc not to take it personally, he was a conduit, but that he could deliver the message to Paris," Neeson said.

With that, Neeson stormed out of a meeting where, and, in front of reporters and with great flourish, tore up a statement by French President Jacques Chirac.

It was one of the more unusual reactions here to Chirac's decision Wednesday's to resume nuclear tests at Mururoa Atoll, beginning in September.

In another reaction, Foreign Minister Don McKinnon hinted France could be frozen out of two multi-million dollar military hardware deals in New Zealand [NZ].

Speaking to Radio New Zealand, he said military procurement would be a "very tangible" area of protest for New Zealand and would probably have "more effect on France than it does on us".

A French-backed company, Eurocopter International Limited, is one of four international firms that have been asked to submit a tender for a 200 million NZ dollars (133 million US dollars) contract to supply new helicopters to the navy.

Another French company, Matra, is one of only two contenders — with Hughes of the US — to supply the army with "very low-level air defence missiles" in a package worth 19 million dollars.

A multiparty delegation took a letter signed by 94 of New Zealand's 99 MPs, including Prime Minister Jim Bolger, to the embassy.

Just a few minutes into the private meeting, Neeson stormed out, telling reporters waiting outside that Chirac needed "a good kick right in the backside".

Clearly angered by the ambassador's explanations, Neeson said Le Blanc had "given us a load of rubbish concerning the reasons for (nuclear) testing which are old-fashioned, out-dated, out-moded and totally immoral, and I personally am not listening to any more of it".

An MP who attended the meeting and did not wish to be identified told the New Zealand Press Association that Neeson's outburst began when Le Blanc began explaining how the tests would be carried out underground, and were "safe".

The MP said Neeson then retorted: "Safe! You arrogant bastards!"

Neeson denied using the word bastard.

The MPs' letter applauded France's step to impose a moratorium on testing in 1992 and called on the French not to go ahead with a resumption of testing.

It said New Zealand valued its long friendship and cooperation with France and did not want to see that damaged by an act which would threaten both the environment and efforts to eliminate the risk of nuclear war.

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